

Marlowe  
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No 61,815

# THE TIMES

THURSDAY, APRIL 26 1984

20p

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

**High spirits**  
The day the Bishop of Southwark drank a cocktail of brandy and TCP

**King among fish**  
John Young on where the salmon run



**Silicon rampant**  
Scotland writes off the past and looks to the future in Silicon Glen

**Matchless**  
Rex Bellamy reports from Dallas on McEnroe's attempt to win the World Championship tennis tournament for the fourth time

## City split over new watchdog

A split has developed in the City over how to police the behaviour of investment advisers. Most members of the Council for the Securities Industry, which represents 16 investment associations, want the CSI to become the City's watchdog. But three, representing unit trusts and merchant banking, say there is no need for a buffer organization below the Department of Trade and Industry, which ultimately controls the investment industry.

## British record for Zola Budd

Zola Budd broke the UK junior 1,500m record by almost four seconds last night. Running barefoot, the 17-year-old South African-born runner who was granted British nationality earlier this month won an invitation race on the Crystal Palace track in South London in a time of 4 min 10.82 sec.

Budd welcomed, page 23

In the balance, page 2

## Police inquiry

The Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs is to investigate the Special Branch for the first time, concentrating on its role, resources, training and accountability.

## Airline illness

British Airways said 631 passengers and 135 staff became ill during an outbreak of food poisoning on some Concorde flights and other services. Page 3

## £1.5m swindle

A solicitor's clerk who defrauded clients, building societies and banks of £1.5m to keep his office in business has been jailed for three years. Page 3

## Brazil tension

The Brazilian Congress was debating early today an amendment to permit the first direct presidential elections for 24 years, amid tough security measures in a tense Brasilia. Page 6

## Hess is 90

Rudolf Hess, the world's most expensive and loneliest prisoner, is 90 today. Report and photographs, back page

## Budget deadlock

City councillors in Liverpool failed for the second time in a month to agree a budget for the financial year which started last month. Page 2

## Flat challenge

Michael Dickenson will give up National Hunt training at the end of this season before starting up as private Flat trainer to Robert Sangster. Page 25

Leader page 13

Letters: On foreign policy, from Sir Geoffrey Jackson, and Mr S L. Cowper-Coles; Sinn Féin from the Most Rev Dr Cahal Daly; The Observer, from Mr Robert Maxwell

Leading articles: The Observer; Civil service pay

Features, pages 10, 12

Tycoon Tiny and mogul Maxwell: Robert Fisk visits a Lebanese village of hatred; Scargill, killer of consensus. Spectrum: a profile of poet Brynlen Brynlenback

Obituary page 14

Professor Harry Street, Mrs Maxine Miles

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## Brittan wants to clamp down on diplomatic rules

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, in a first and interim report to the Commons on the murder of Yvonne Fletcher and the resulting severing of diplomatic relations with Libya, gave an indication which MPs found unconvincing that the Government will try to prevent similar crimes being committed in future under the cloak of diplomatic immunity.

He said that Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will consider putting forward proposals for changes in the Vienna Convention with the object of preventing a recurrence of what he called the "gross abuse of diplomatic immunity" which led to the killing.

Experienced MPs on either side of the Commons later expressed much scepticism given that 141 countries have ratified the existing convention and that any change in the rules governing diplomatic activity or in their application and enforcement would require prolonged and wide consultation.

Mr George Walden, Conservative MP for Buckingham, and a former diplomat, said that any review could take a decade.

There were requests from both sides of the Commons for Sir Geoffrey, who is expected back on Saturday from his visit to the Far East, to make a statement next week on the responsibility of his department for the state of affairs at the Libyan People's Bureau in London. He will also be pressed to say what real hopes he may have of changing the diplomatic rules.

There will be plenty of pressure from backbenchers in all parties for him to do something. Labour MPs were last night crowding to sign a motion drafted by Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, which calls on the Government to "seek urgent changes in the rules... and to ensure that, where appropriate, diplomatic bags are subjected to scrutiny to ensure that they are not misused for the importation of weapons".

But the machinery for change looks cumbersome in the extreme. Foreign Office officials explained yesterday that any review of the Vienna Convention, which is incorporated in British domestic law in the Diplomatic Privileges Act, 1964, must first be discussed within the International Law

Commission of the United Nations. That meets once a year in Geneva, usually in May, and deliberates for three or four months.

It has 34 members, all independent lawyers nominated but not subject to direction by their governments. The British representative is Sir Ian Sinclair, until recently the Foreign Office chief legal advisor.

The Government hopes that Sir Ian will think it right to raise the question of abuse of diplomatic bags and that his colleagues will share his concern. But any proposals on which the commission may agree must then go to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly - the legal committee - to be considered by government representatives, after which they will be subjected to repeated reference back to Geneva until agreement is reached.

There was no pretence in government circles after Mr Brittan's statement yesterday that anything could reasonably be expected to result for several years.

Parliament, page 4

## 'Every effort' to find WPC killer

By Michael Horsnell

Every effort is being made to identify the murderer of Yvonne Fletcher, who was shot in the back outside the Libyan People's Bureau in London last week. Commander Bill Hicklesby, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, told an inquest into her death yesterday.

For diplomatic reasons, investigations into the killing by a man believed still to be in the building had been limited, but several hundred people had been interviewed, 200 statements taken, 18 people detained and interviewed, two of whom are still detained, and two detained.

The inquest at Westminster was opened and adjourned until next Wednesday by the coroner, Dr Paul Knappman, who released WPC Fletcher's body for cremation.

WPC Fletcher, aged 25, from Mere, Wiltshire, whose address was given as Sherwood Court, Grove Avenue, South Harrow, Middlesex, was killed by a single bullet fired from a high-velocity automatic weapon as she watched over rival demonstrators outside the bureau at 5 St James's Square.

Dr Iain West, consultant forensic pathologist at St Thomas's Medical School, London, told the inquest that although she had more than one injury, the cause of death was a firearm wound to the abdomen.

Commander Hicklesby said that at about 10.10am on April 17 about 70 people from the Libyan Exiles in Britain organization were demonstrating against the regime of Colonel Gaddafi in Libya.

The demonstration began, two counter demonstrations,

each consisting of about 15 people, took place, and involved people who had earlier been seen emerging from the building.

Police had deployed 23 unarmed officers to watch the demonstration, although others were held near by in reserve. WPC Fletcher was facing the anti-Gaddafi group, with her back to the building about 25 yards away, when a burst of automatic gunfire was heard.

Commander Hicklesby said: "Several eye-witnesses said they saw an automatic or semi-automatic firearm being pointed from a first-floor window of the Libyan People's Bureau with smoke and flames coming from the barrel of the weapon. WPC Fletcher was shot in the back by one bullet.

"Unsatisfactory student"; Deportees "arranged protest" page 2

## Kennedy son, 28, found dead

Washington (AP) - David Anthony Kennedy, the son of the late Robert Kennedy, was found dead in a Palm Beach hotel room yesterday. He was 28.

Police would not say what caused his death, but there was no evidence of foul play.

His death was announced by the office of Uncle Senator Edward Kennedy. In a brief statement, Senator Kennedy said: "This is a very difficult time for all the members of our family, including David's mother, Ethel, and his brothers and sisters, who tried so hard to help him in recent years. All of us loved him very much. With trust in God, we all pray that David has finally found the peace that he did not find in life."

Mr Robert Shrum, an aide to Senator Kennedy, declined to say whether drugs were involved in the death. In 1979 David Kennedy reported that he had been robbed of \$30 (£20) in a seedy hotel in Harlem, New York, that police described as a dope supermarket.

David Kennedy was then taken to hospital with a heart infection that is sometimes associated with narcotics abuse.

David was the fourth of the 11 children of Robert and Ethel Kennedy. Robert Kennedy was assassinated in 1968 while campaigning for the democratic presidential nomination.

## Maxwell agrees to pay unions' fines

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell, the millionaire publisher, yesterday agreed to pay fines of £150,000 imposed on two printing unions whose members had been staging an occupation of his London headquarters.

Mr Maxwell, chairman of the British Printing and Communication Corporation, agreed to pay into the bank accounts of the National Graphical Association and Sogest £2,000 each. Although each union was fined £75,000 by the High Court last week, Mr Maxwell agreed to pay an additional £5,000 "on account" of redundancy payments agreed for 65 employees.

The two unions had warned Mr Maxwell that he could face a complete shutdown of BPCC by May 7 unless he agreed to meet a £15 a week pay claim. That claim was yesterday withdrawn following agreement to pay the unions' fines.

Technically, Mr Maxwell, who is hopeful of buying The Observer from Lordo in the current dispute over editorial freedom, did not pay the fines himself. That was done yesterday afternoon by the NGA and Sogest £2, but he did agree to reimburse the unions and pay the extra £5,000 on top of the fines.

Mr Maxwell's office said last night that he had nothing to add to a statement made earlier in the day which detailed the agreement for ending the occupation of Maxwell House in Worship Street in the City. That statement did not refer to the arrangement to pay the unions' fines.

The statement said the dispute between the corporation and the unions had been "ended amicably" and the occupation of the fifth floor of Maxwell House "has been brought to an end. Under the terms of the agreement the unions have accepted 65 redundancies at Waterlow Security Printers, a subsidiary of BPCC.

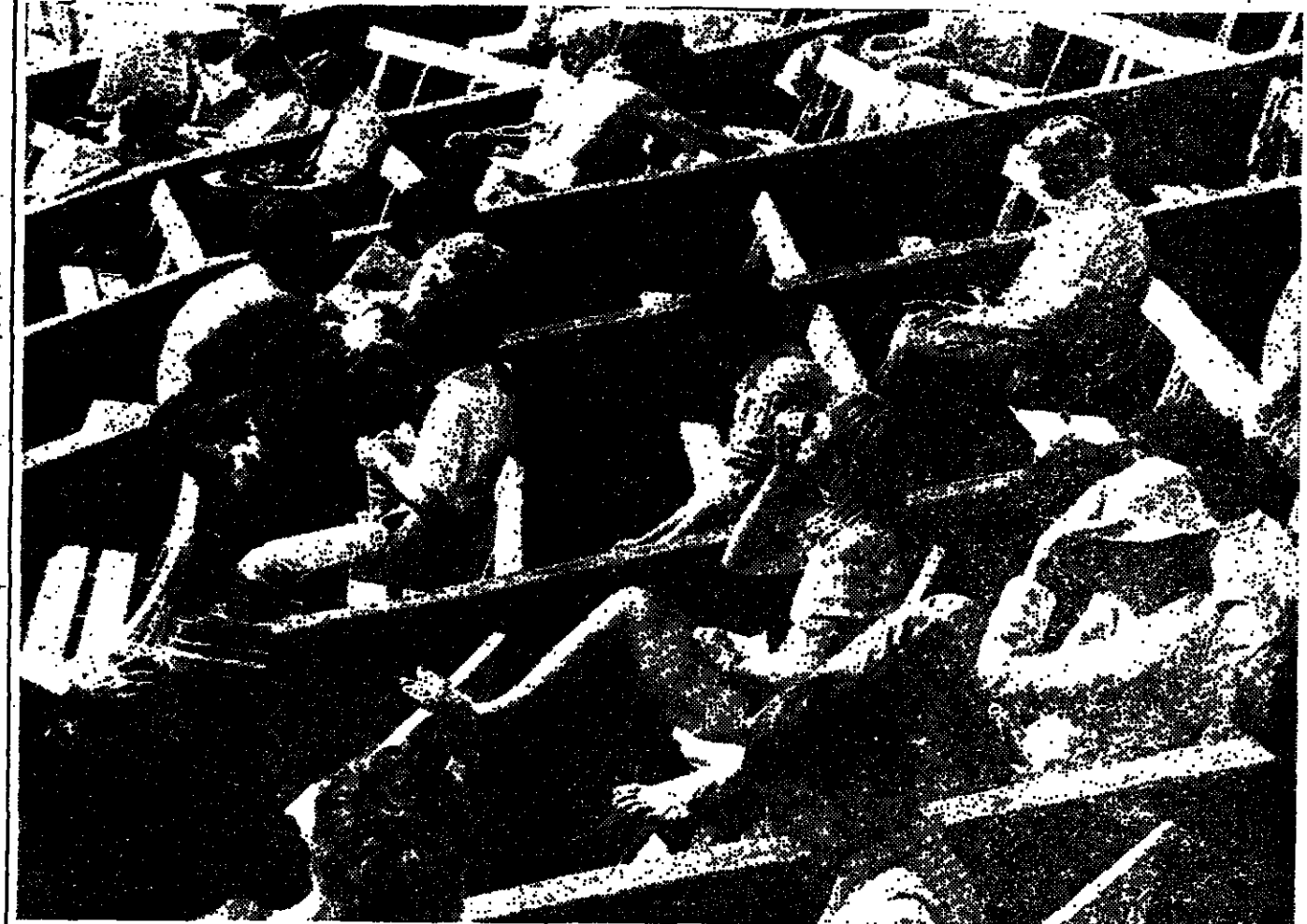
The corporation has agreed to retain on its staff 23 printing employees "in the hope that it could obtain work suitable for a small printing unit in London."

Union sources indicated last night that the affair has cost Mr Maxwell about £300,000 because there is no limit on the redundancy payments available to those leaving Waterlow. The company has a high proportion of long serving employees and the terms agreed, four weeks for each year of service, could add around £120,000 to the closure bill.

Mr Maxwell's agreement to pay the unions' fines came after two days of intense and often bitter negotiations with printing union leaders which started at Mr Maxwell's Oxfordshire home on Monday night.

At one stage there appeared to be little scope for agreement, but then the unions emphasized that if Mr Maxwell did not pay the fines, they would arrange a protest. Continued on back page, col 8

## A sunshine start to the cricket season



Some of the 3,000 spectators basking in the sunshine at Lord's yesterday during the traditional curtain-raiser to the new cricket season. Last year the game had to be abandoned without a ball being bowled. But yesterday, with London temperatures touching 70°F, the lucky crowd watched the MCC reach 235 for six in the first day of a three-day match against the champions, Essex.

The weather picture was similar in most parts of Britain. Seaside resorts

in the South and South-West reported a mini-boom in spring holiday bookings and Bournemouth hoteliers said they were 85 to 90 per cent full, breaking all records for April. Many visitors, who had originally planned an Easter break, had decided to stay over. In Devon, Torbay and Ilfracombe were bursting at the seams as trippers set off at dawn for the beaches. The spring heatwave also brought scrub fires to North Yorkshire and the New Forest area of Hampshire. And

firemen in Devon brought under control a gorse fire which spread across hundreds of acres of Dartmoor. A spokesman at the London Weather Centre said that there was unlikely to be any rain anywhere in Britain until after the weekend. The rest of Europe is suffering by comparison. Spain and Italy have experienced storms over the past few days and Corfu and Ajaccio have been covered by cloud. Photograph: Ian Stewart.

## Banks make £780m tax provisions

By Jeremy Warner

Barclays Bank and Midland Bank Group are to provide a total of £780m in this year's accounts to meet the cost of the changes in corporation tax and capital allowances that were announced in the Budget.

This was disclosed to shareholders of the two high street banks at their annual meetings in London yesterday. National Westminster has already estimated that it may have to provide an extra £377m for taxation because of the changes and that Lloyds Bank is expected to put its own figure on the additional liability at its annual meeting next week.

City investment analysts have estimated that the four big clearing banks may together have to provide well over £1.7 billion in additional tax over future years - equal to the pretax profits of the four banks put together last year - because of the changes.

Midland is to put aside £230m in its 1984 accounts to meet the cost of changes in the way capital expenditure can be offset against tax and Barclays, Britain's biggest bank, is providing £550m. With the blessing of the Bank of England, both are changing the additional amounts against their built-up reserves.

The provisions have become necessary because banks have used the old capital allowances to defer tax indefinitely on income from their leasing business in which banks pay for capital equipment and then, in effect, rent it to customers such as big companies. But in the past banks have set aside only a quarter of the tax being deferred because nobody believed that it would ever become payable.

Now they believe that because of the changes in the Budget, substantial amounts will have to be paid in future years.

"They were subject to a special tax in 1981 because it was alleged that they had a beneficial tax and profit position. The changes now proposed will therefore be a form of double taxation on a highly notional benefit.

## Miners offer more talks but make no concessions

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Union leaders of 140,000 striking miners were offered talks yesterday on pit closures "as quickly as possible", but the immediate prospects of a negotiated settlement are not good.

The National Coal Board responded swiftly to a letter from the National Union of Mineworkers suggesting talks "anywhere at any time" with an invitation to attend the industry's national consultative council.

However, union leaders boycotted a meeting of this body yesterday, and a union spokesman insisted that the letter from the general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, did not indicate any shift in the miners' hardline position.

The coal board is evidently anxious to break the deadlock in the strike, now in its seventh week, and Mr Heathfield, its director-general of industrial relations, said: "We shall be trying to establish as a matter of urgency a special meeting of the

coal industry's national consultative council."

Miners' leaders refused to attend yesterday's meeting of the consultative council, on the grounds that it was not the appropriate body to negotiate the industry's future shape, a charge denied by the board.

The board also said: "We have not made any shift in our attitude whatsoever. The board has received a letter which stressed the willingness of the union to sit down at any time in any place to discuss with the coal board in a reasonable manner the future of the coal industry, based on the expansion of that industry."

The latter phrase is the clue to the miners' attitude. It confirms that they are refusing to negotiate on the board's plan to close 20 pits, with the loss of 20,000 jobs.

But while the two sides were sparring over the form any resumption of negotiations could take, it became clear that moderate miners are still

turning up for work, despite the national union strike call.

In Nottinghamshire, there was heavy picketing at some pits but all 25 collieries were producing coal. The board reported that 46 mines were working yesterday, with 121 strike bound.

The level of activity in Nottinghamshire and other coalfields since the Easter holiday was sufficient to restore the confidence of ministers yesterday that the miners will not unite to bring about a complete shutdown of the industry (Our Political Editor writes).

That confidence wavered after the decision of the miners' delegate conference last week to try to spread the strike without a national ballot. Some members of the Government wondered if Mr Arthur Scargill, the union president, had grabbed the initiative.

But Ministers most closely Continued on back page, col 8

## Liverpool reach the final

Liverpool reached the final of the European Cup for the fourth time yesterday with a 2-1 win at Dinamo Bucharest, but Dundee United's hopes of joining them were frustrated as they lost 3-0 to AS Roma.

Two goals from Ian Rush gave Liverpool a 3-1 aggregate win in front of a hostile crowd of 75,000 in Romania. The final, on May 30, will be played at Roma's home ground, the Olympic Stadium.

Dundee United's 2-0 advantage from the home leg of their semi-final was wiped out before half time in Rome, and penalty in the second half put them out.

Nottingham Forest were knocked out of the UEFA Cup semi-final 3-2 on aggregate after losing 3-0 to Anderlecht in Belgium. Page 24

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## Danes to explore wreck of Nelson flagship

From Christopher Follett  
Copenhagen

Danish divers will soon begin a major exploration of the wreck of the St George, Nelson's flagship before the battle of Copenhagen in 1801, which went down in a storm off the west coast of Jutland in 1811. The divers are from the Danish National Museum's Institute of Maritime Archaeology.

Built in 1785, the 1,950-ton St George was, though smaller, similar to the Victory in design. It had a keel measuring 145 ft, a crew of 853, and 98 guns.

Before the battle, Nelson transferred his flag to a smaller ship, to negotiate a shallow passage.

From 1809 to 1811 the St

George served in the Baltic, escorting ships carrying Scandinavian timber, flax, hemp, and tar to Britain during the Napoleonic wars. On Christmas Eve, 1811, on a crossing from Göteborg to England, the St George and the frigate Defence ran aground in a storm on a sand-bar less than a mile off the fishing village of Thorsminde. All 1,375 men on board the two ships died.

Although a considerable number of cannon, the ships' bells and an anchor were salvaged during the 1870s and onwards, it was not until the 1970s that local diving enthusiasts took a serious interest in the wreck.

This led to a thorough charting of the wreck by the



The St George: Lost with all hands in 1811.

National Museum last spring, resulting in the discovery of a wealth of artifacts a mile off the windswept fishing hamlet.

The wreck is at a depth of some 30ft. Only three out of six decks remain, all of them below the waterline: the lower gun deck, the orlop and the main hold, set in a keel which is almost intact.

In these decks, which housed the sick bay, magazines, food stores and cabins and berths for stewards, boatswains and midshipmen, divers have already retrieved pottery, vases, jugs and other containers, barrel staves, various utensils, brass belt buckles, pieces of uniform and musket balls.

Mr Michael Teisen, the historian, archaeologist and diver in charge of the project, said its importance lies in the prospect of finding more artifacts from the storage areas of

the ship, everyday practical items which played a big part in naval history and which maritime historians lack. Diving is to begin in the next few days.

Mr Teisen said the artifacts should give a fuller picture of life and conditions at sea on the lower decks of a British warship of the period.

The National Maritime Museum in Greenwich has expressed great interest in the Danish project. Mr Teisen said, with a view to possibly acquiring some artifacts for the Victory.

A £20,000 budget has been allocated for the project, which will employ five divers and another five experts for a total of 30 working days during the summer months, if the North Sea weather permits.



## Power station coal stocks likely to last into autumn

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Improved weather and long-range forecasts for a warm summer have stretched the potential life of coal stocks at power stations in England and Wales well into the autumn.

Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said in Commons written answer yesterday that stocks are now estimated to last "for many months". New figures calculated by the Central Electricity Generating Board showed that demand for power has dropped by almost 40 per cent from mid-January's peak.

The board estimates that by May 1 demand will be running at around 3.5 billion units a day and by June 1 that figure will drop to 3.0 billion units a day. At the height of winter, demand was slightly over 5.5 billion units a day.

The board has also increased its oil burning to preserve coal stocks and had been using the massive Dornic hydro-power station in Snowdonia to meet peak demand such as during an episode of the television serial *The Thorn Birds* and when Torville and Dean skated to their world championship victory.

The Dornic station is to be officially inaugurated by the Prince of Wales on May 9. Although it can feed power into the national grid for only five hours and uses six hours' worth of off-peak electricity to be pumped back up to operational readiness, it has proved that it can be successfully used to meet

sudden surges in demand at short notice.

The network of nuclear stations is maintaining output at around 14 per cent of base load and output has been gradually stepped up at the big five oil-burning stations at Pembroke and Fawley, where oil is piped direct from adjoining refineries, and at Ince on Merseyside, and Littlebrook and Isle of Grain on the Thames Estuary.

The generating board's oil-fired stations have the capacity to produce 8,782 megawatts of the total 53,749 megawatts of capacity (16.3 per cent). However, oil-derived electricity normally accounts for about 4 per cent of supply, the figure was 2 per cent in the mid-70s before oil prices rose and the board closed several of its smaller oil-fired stations - and the board will not officially divulge the extent of the increase.

However, incursions into the Rotterdam spot market for half a million tonnes of heavy fuel oil at a cost of \$50m, has pushed the spot price up by \$10 to \$175 (£121) in the past month.

The board also has the facility to "import" power from Scotland where the South of Scotland Electricity Board and the North of Scotland Hydro-Electricity Board have surplus. The amount of power taken from Scotland is, however, limited by the capacity of the 275 kilovolt cable across the Borders.

## Support urged for day of action

The Scottish trade union movement yesterday called on its members to give maximum support to a day of action on May 9 to support the miners' strike.

Rallies will be held in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee, with dozens of smaller demonstrations in Scottish towns.

The Scottish miners' president, Mr Mick McGahey, said he hoped for the "mass mobilization of the Scottish people" in support of the strike, and told a meeting of Scottish TUC and National Union of Mineworkers officials in Edinburgh that the miners' struggle to defend jobs "is a struggle to defend the whole of the Scottish economy".

Miners' pickets in Scotland yesterday allowed supplies of oil through to the Thomas Russell paper mill at Markinch, in Fife, where the jobs of 1,500 workers were threatened as the plant ran out of fuel.

But at Barony Colliery in Ayrshire, pickets refused to allow a team of safety workers below ground to carry out essential maintenance in spite of appeals from the National Coal Board that the pit could be lost with 550 jobs.

A high-powered air gun pellet hit a window at Boksover colliery in North Derbyshire, narrowly missing a security guard, yesterday.

Police confirmed that they were investigating. Nails were found scattered on approach roads to the pit at about the time of the incident, and police are also investigating complaints that female canteen staff at the colliery have been threatened with violence if they continue to work normally.



Prison protest: Miners demonstrating at Lincoln jail in support of four pitmen held on remand.

## Labour plans levy to aid miners

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party yesterday allied itself more firmly to the miners' fight against pit closures by calling on its members to contribute more than £100,000 a week to the National Union of Mineworkers' strike fund.

In a move which marks a political escalation of the dispute, and for which there appears to be no precedent in modern times, the party's national executive committee decided to ask constituency Labour parties to raise money for the strike fund by levying a minimum of 50p a week from

members, or by other means such as fund-raising events and door-to-door collections.

Parties are being asked to forward money direct to the strike fund. No central total will be kept and no conditions are being attached by the party to the use to which it will be put, although Mr James Mortimer, the party secretary, said last night: "I have no doubt that the great bulk of the money will go on the alleviation of hardship."

The Labour Party has about 270,000 members. The levy is voluntary and a fair proportion

of the numbers are pensioners but, even if they were excluded, the party could manage well over £100,000 a week if its members were willing to pay.

A motion passed unanimously by the executive stated: "We recognize that the strike is entering a new and decisive stage. The establishment of a Tory 'War Cabinet' the buying of extra oil for the power stations and the denial of social security payments system all indicate clearly that the Tory Government is trying to starve the miners back

## Deadlock again on Liverpool budget

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

City councillors in Liverpool failed yesterday for the second time in a month to agree a budget for the financial year which began at the start of April. The Labour-led council therefore remains the only rating authority in Britain which cannot yet send out demands for payments of rates to help finance its spending.

The council is being kept afloat mainly by rents from its tenants and instalments of government rate-support grant worth more than £1m a month.

The grant payments are higher than they would have been if the council had fixed a budget. That is because grant is being paid as if the council was keeping its total spending down to the target fixed by ministers.

The council's next budget meeting will be held in mid-May after next week's election in which 34 of the 99 seats will be contested. The present composition of the council is 51 Labour, 30 Liberal and 18 Conservative.

*Liberal News*, the newspaper of the Liberal Party, said of Liverpool in a review last month of the May council elections: "It would take a major reversal of fortunes there for Labour to lose control."

Yesterday's six-hour meeting of the council ended in the same deadlock as that in March, when six of the controlling group of Labour councillors

voted against their party's proposal to approve a potentially illegal budget in which revenue would not cover expenditure.

A Liberal proposal for a rate rise of about 20 per cent and no redundancies in the council's workforce failed to win support from other parties, although it appeared as one point that Conservative councillors might support it. A Conservative plan for a smaller rate rise and a programme that might lead to redundancies was beaten by a large majority.

Conservative support was withheld from the proposed Liberal budget because of disagreement about the composition of a working party to examine the council's finances.

Sir Trevor Jones, the Liberal group leader, and Mr Christopher Hallows, the leader of the Conservative councillors, both said that it was important for the council to ensure that government commissioners were not sent to administer it because it was not carrying out its duties.

Mr John Hamilton, the leader of the controlling Labour group, said that Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, appeared to be "a man who lacks compassion and human understanding and appreciation of the needs of humanity".

## 'Shoot to kill' plea to RUC

From Richard Ford Belfast

Security forces in Northern Ireland should shoot to kill in dealing with petrol bombers, the Democratic Unionist Party said yesterday.

The strategy was urged by a delegation of five led by the Rev Ian Paisley, the party leader, which met Sir John Hermon, the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, for talks on security. The demand for a shoot-to-kill policy comes after the death of a soldier on Monday after a two-vehicle army patrol came under petrol and gun attack in Londonderry.

Mr James Allister, a DUP Assembly member for east Antrim, said a petrol bomb could kill as easily as a shotgun. Anyone wielding one should be dealt with for the weapon of a terrorist purpose and should be dealt with as the threat he undoubtedly is.

Petrol bombing has occurred almost nightly in Londonderry for weeks, with soldiers and police coming under attack from rioters.

Yesterday's meeting between Sir John and the Democratic Unionists was hailed as a breakthrough by the party, which has long demanded face-to-face talks with him. Sir John stopped seeing politicians in 1981, determined to ensure that the RUC never became an openly political instrument. But in the wake of the killing of three church elders in Armagh last year he came under pressure to drop his boycott and reassure politicians.

## Surgeon wants seatbelts kept

Car seatbelt legislation should be extended beyond the three-year trial period, the Casualty Surgeons Conference in Edinburgh was told yesterday.

Mr William Rutherford, a consultant at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, said the trial had led to a marked drop in the number of serious brain, chest and kidney injuries. Figures from 15 casualty departments in British hospitals showed there had been up to 20 per cent fewer crash casualties.

## School post for campaigner

Mr Wayne Williams, who served three months in prison three years ago after taking part in a Welsh language campaign, has been appointed head of the Welsh department at Llandilo High School, in Powys, where he was once banned from the classroom.

Mr Williams, from Tregaron, Dyfed, had been found guilty of conspiracy to damage broadcasting equipment during a campaign for a Welsh language fourth television channel.

## 'Below stairs' writer dies

Margaret Powell, the author and broadcaster who became known for her books about her harsh early life "below stairs" as a domestic servant, died yesterday in a clinic at Hove, East Sussex. She was 76. Her last book, *The Butler's Revenge*, was published this month.

## NHS brings in blood handling charges

By Nicholas Timmins Social Services Correspondent

The government has introduced handling charges for blood provided to private patients by the National Health Service, ranging from £19.75 for a unit of whole blood to £82.75 a donation for some blood products.

The charges come into effect from this month but may be revised, possibly upwards, next year after detailed studies on the cost of supplying blood and associated products.

In 1982, more than 32,000 units (about two-thirds of a pint) of blood were supplied to private hospitals, a figure that is likely to have risen with increased activity in that sector.

The charge is meant to relate to collection, handling and transport costs, and not to include any element for the blood itself as ministers are anxious to preserve the tradition of blood donation.

For whole blood the charge will be £19.75 a unit, and for blood products the charges range from £6.75 for cryoprecipitate which contains clotting factors, to £82.75 for white cell concentrate which is used, for example, in the treatment of leukaemia.

Health authorities are being told not to include any mention of "sale of blood" when they bill private hospitals for the service. It is also a condition of supply that private hospitals do not make a profit by charging patients for the blood.

Health authorities are being told that only in exceptional circumstances should they supply blood products in which the NHS is not self-sufficient and which are available commercially.

The announcement last November that a handling charge was to be introduced angered private hospitals, which saw the move as capitalisation to union pressure. In Scotland, health service unions blocked for a time the supply of blood to a new private hospital, Ross Hall in Glasgow.

Yesterday, the British United Provident Association said that it was disappointed that charges had been introduced.

## Action in schools a step nearer

By Colin Hughes

A long summer term of industrial action in Britain's schools came a step nearer yesterday when the second largest teachers' union decided to reject an improved pay offer before it is made.

The decision at the annual conference in Llandudno, of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, makes it difficult for the executive of the National Union of Teachers, the largest teachers' union, to accept the 4.5 per cent offer which the management is expected to make next Monday.

The leaders of the National Union of Teachers have so far shied away from predicting their reaction to the expected offer, which would be an increase on the present 3 per cent offer. Many of the union's executive doubt that they can win more than 4.5 per cent, but its members display considerable militancy at annual conferences in Blackpool last weekend.

Yesterday, however, the union suggested "possible cooperation" with the association if industrial action was placed in a letter from Mr Don McAvoy, acting general secretary of the NUT, to Mr Fred Smithies, the general secretary of NAS/UTW.

The association with 120,000 members agreed yesterday to a programme of industrial action to start on Monday. Members will withdraw from non-essential duties such as lunchtime supervision, staff meetings and cover for absent colleagues.

The association's action committee will draw up plans for selective strikes targeted at the most vulnerable schools and timetables, particularly where members hold key positions.

It will also propose "high profile" action, such as focusing on schools in the Prime Minister's constituency, Finchley in north London, Sir

## Decision of council on Zola Budd in balance

By Robin Young

Mr Ian Jackson, leader of the Labour-run Torfaen borough council in Gwent, said yesterday that there was "only a fifty-fifty chance" of his council banning the South African-born athlete, Zola Budd, from competing at the UK championships in the council's Cwmbran stadium next month. The Labour group meets tonight to discuss the issue.

Even if they proceed with the attempt to bar Miss Budd from the track, it will not affect her chances of representing Britain in the Olympic Games. She has been invited already to the British Olympic trials on the evening of June 6 for her chosen distance, the 3,000 metres.

At Cwmbran, Miss Budd intends to compete in the 1,500 metres, and although the event is intended to form part of her Olympic training and build-up, it would have no bearing on her qualification.

Mr Jackson said: "I believe that the council, as both owners and organisers of the Cwmbran stadium, does have powers to keep Miss Budd out of it unless the laws of property have been changed drastically overnight."

"This Government is quite capable of that, but in the first instance we would hope that the British Amateur Athletic Board would be intelligent and decent enough to accommodate our wishes, since Torfaen council have been such bountiful hosts to the race in the past."

Mr Jackson agreed that if the board refused to withdraw Miss Budd from the championships, the council's only recourse would be to cancel the contract for the hire of the stadium, and face the possibility of bills for damages.

"I do not believe that so many final commitments have been made that claims for compensation would necessarily succeed," he said, "but if we decide to take a moral stand we must be prepared to pay."

A spokesman for board said last night: "We will have no comment on the attitude of Torfaen council until they decide what it is, but it would seem impossible for the board to ban any British citizen from the UK championships."

## The Libyan bureau crisis 'Unsatisfactory student' departs

A third Libyan was put on an aircraft back to Tripoli and 11 more were awaiting a Home Office decision on their immediate future last night as Britain continued to tighten its immigration rules after the break in diplomatic relations with Colonel Gaddafi's Government.

The figures were released in Whitehall after a day which also saw the start of talks between senior officials and the three-man Libyan delegation which is here to supervise the evacuation of the People's Bureau in St James's Square.

It was announced too that Saudi Arabia had accepted as the protecting power to represent Libyans remaining here after the bureau has been closed at the weekend.

The Libyan who left was Mr Ismail Mohammed El Harem, aged 22, described by the Home Office as a "unsatisfactory student" who had been refused permission to enter the country. But Mr Ibrahim Abozyziah, the former cultural attaché at the bureau, who arrived with his wife and child in a party of 15 Libyans at Heathrow, was told he could stay for only 48 hours to collect his belongings.

The fate of Mr Matooq Matooq, the last of the four students who took over control of the bureau in February, was uncertain last night. But he remained in detention and looked likely also to be deported within the next day or two.

None of the four, it now appears was in the bureau at the time of the shooting last week of Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher and all are thought to have been in other official Libyan buildings in London ever since.

The Cabinet's emergency committee, code-named Cobra, met yesterday for about 90 minutes and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, Mr Richard Luce, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, and Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, are believed to have been present.

But there was still no indication of when the siege of the bureau would be lifted and the 30 to 40 people inside finally taken to the airport for their return. Sunday looks probable, with the diplomats emerging only hours before midnight deadlines imposed by Britain.

The delegation sent by Colonel Gaddafi visited Sir John Leahy, a deputy secretary at the Foreign Office, before beginning the detailed discussions over ending the siege and closing down the bureau.

Led by Colonel Abdul Shaibi, said to be a senior intelligence official in Tripoli with the rank of a deputy minister, the delegation left their hotel early yesterday in separate cars to start the talks. Although they do not seem to have visited the bureau, they are reported to have been in contact by telephone with the people inside.

The announcement that the Saudi embassy in Belgrave Square will safeguard Libyan interests here was made in Parliament and followed confirmation by the Foreign Office that Italy was to be Britain's protecting power in Libya.

It is customary under such arrangements for each country to have a small "special interests" section of its diplomats installed at the embassy of the protecting power, as Britain and Argentina have done since 1982.

Support for Britain came yesterday from the political affairs committee of the European Parliament.

Belgium also told Libya of the need to observe diplomatic propriety, while Gerrit Hans-Dietrich Gensch, the West German Foreign Minister, was said by reliable sources in Bonn to have postponed a planned visit to Tripoli on Monday.

## Deportees 'arranged protest'

By Richard Dowden and Pat Healy

The three Libyan students who have been in control of the People's Bureau since February and who were expelled from Britain this week were all in the bureau the night before the shooting, according to Libyan sources in London.

The sources say that they left at about 3 am having telephoned numerous Libyan students to arrange the counter demonstration, but Mr Saleh Ibrahim Mabruk returned early the next morning. He was arrested for obstructing the police before the demonstration took place.

Mr Abdul Ghadir Khalifa Baghadi and Mr Matooq Mohamed Matooq stayed in London after the shooting and last weekend went to the Libyan consulate in Prince's Gate, south-west London. It is understood that Mr Baghadi was arrested outside the consulate early Tuesday morning and Mr Matooq later that day.

Police sources said yesterday, however, that they could have arrested both men at any time since the shooting. The fourth member of the committee which took over the bureau on February 18, Mr Ali Abu Jaziah, returned to Libya week before the shooting.

In the Lords yesterday, Lord Avebury tabled a question asking whether the deported students had been fully informed of their rights to a hearing.

He said: "I have no sympathy at all for the Libyans but, having set up a procedure, it should not be abandoned. It is bad law to discriminate between different classes of people."

The Liberal peer was questioning whether the students had been told that they had a right to appeal.

The Home Office confirmed last night that the students had a right of appeal against deportation and said they had all been so informed.

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Campaign trail: Mr Michael Poulter, Labour's candidate in the Stafford by-election, on May 3 touring the constituency with Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, yesterday.

## Journalists fear threat to Observer finances

Journalists at *The Observer*, meeting in the wake of a well publicized dispute between the newspaper's proprietor and its editor, Mr Donald Treford, yesterday voiced concern that Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland may be about to impose financial strictures on the newspaper which would inhibit any plans for its expansion and development (Alan Hamilton writes).

The 70 full-time editorial staff were taking seriously remarks made by Mr Rowland to *The Times* and published in yesterday's later editions, in which he said that Mr Donald Treford and his staff would in future have to run the paper on its own parlous finances with-

out any assistance from Lomho, the overall owners.

Mr Rowland's plans for the newspaper are expected to be aired in detail at a regular meeting of *The Observer* board on Monday. If such a threat to make the newspaper stand on its own feet were carried out, it would put *The Observer* in a highly difficult position; its trading loss in the last financial year is said to be about £1m.

Already this year *The Observer* has suffered the costly loss of one issue during the National Graphical Association's dispute with Mr Eddie Shah, and two issues of its colour magazine, ironically because of a dispute in the works of Mr Robert Maxwell, who wants to buy the newspaper.

Mr Barbara Mills, for the prosecution, said that Mr Ronald Pettit, a building and

Mrs Sheridan

Mr Hamlin





## Solicitor's clerk defrauded £1.5m from building societies, banks and clients

A solicitor's clerk who defrauded clients, building societies and banks of £1.5m to hold on to his job was jailed for three years by Southwark Crown Court, east London, yesterday.

Danzie Hazell, aged 47, generated the money by awarding himself mortgages under false names and with false references and by speculating on the property market, Mr Alan Jones, for the prosecution, said.

But in 1982 there was a slump in the market and Hazell lost large amounts of money, Mr Jones said.

Hazell had to steal thousands of pounds from clients' accounts to bail himself out. "He robbed Peter to pay Paul", Mr Jones said.

The two-year fraud was uncovered after Rosenbergs, the solicitors in Church Street, Stoke Newington, north London, who employed him, transferred their accounts to a computer in June, 1982.

By then Hazell had 35 properties, two property companies and 13 bank accounts in false names. But Mr Jones said: "Although Hazell stands alone in the dock, police are inquiring into the activities of more professional people. He is one of a large number."

Mr William Howard QC, for the defence, said that Hazell did not use the money to live a high life but he and his family existed on the bread line.

Mr Howard said that Hazell who never completed his solicitors exams feared his

employer would discover that the office he ran was making losses, that it would be closed and that he would lose his job. The court was told that £1m had been recovered by selling assets.

Hazell of Albemarle Road, East Barnet, Hertfordshire, admitted 14 charges of obtaining property by deception, five charges of theft and two of false accounting.

Police sources said afterwards that similar charges of fraud were likely to be lodged against between six and ten professional people within the next few months. They included solicitors, estate agents and building society managers.

The total amount clients will lose is likely to be more than £2m, they said.

## Seat pledge by new airline

By Michael Baily  
Transport Editor

Any booked passenger who turns up at Gatwick for a Virgin Atlantic flight to New York from June will be guaranteed a seat, the airline said yesterday.

But passengers will lose £5 of their refunds if they cancel more than three days before a flight and £35 in the final three days.

These arrangements mark an attempt by Virgin to beat the double problem that has bedevilled air travel for years: overbooking by airlines and passengers who do not turn up.

It is a problem that feeds on itself: because passengers regularly fail to show up, airlines regularly overbook, to ensure against being shut out by one airline, the traveller often books a duplicate seat on another, intending only to use one.

Virgin, whose first £99 flight to New York has been postponed a week to June 22, promised yesterday: "We will not overbook. Virgin Atlantic is offering the passenger booking certainty."

But the company expects passengers to play ball too. It will not only impose a penalty charge on passengers who cancel but will also refuse to make refunds if they fail to turn up without cancelling. Instead, these passengers will be offered a seat on the next available flight on a strictly standby basis.

Backed by the Mr Richard Branson, the pop music millionaire, Virgin Atlantic is apparently having difficulty meeting its early deadline as Britain challenger to the American cut price airline, People Express. It was granted its licence only last month and a several senior appointments have still to be made.

At £99 for an inaugural week, £119 throughout the summer (129 at weekends) and £110 for winter season, Virgin fares will be comparable to those of People Express and far below regular scheduled fares.

## Timeshare law urged to protect owners

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Legislation should be introduced to give protection to purchasers of timeshare holiday units, Mr James Edmonds, a solicitor who has made a study of timesharing in Britain and abroad, urges in a book published today.

He believes the answer is to have a timeshare Act, and he calls on the British Property Timeshare Association, a representative body for UK developments, to press for legislation.

He argues that the association lacks teeth because there is no legal backing. "The protection offered by the association therefore falls somewhat short of the standard which, in the view of many, the consumer is entitled nowadays to expect."

Timesharing - the acquisition of holiday or other property for a defined period in each year for a number of years - is one of the leisure industry's newest additions. The first big timeshare scheme in England started in 1979 in Torquay. There are now 20,000 timeshare owners and 41 resorts in the UK.

Throughout the world it is estimated there are one million owners, and 1,200 timeshare resorts in 38 countries. Mr Edmonds, in International Timesharing, points out that in several countries,

including France, Spain and the United States, laws have been passed, or are under consideration, to protect purchasers from such difficulties as loss from uncompleted developments, problems involving time-use, and from hard-sell marketing practices.

The association said yesterday that it was in frequent contact with the Department of Trade and the Office of Fair Trading, but it had no plans at present to seek legislation. The association has an insurance bonding scheme, a consumer protection committee and a code of conduct which, according to Lord Garnock, its chairman, "means that the BPTA leads the world timeshare industry in consumer protection. No other national timeshare association has done so much to protect the consumer."

About 90 per cent of all UK developments have association membership, and the consumer protection committee has the power to impose a fine, award financial damages or suspend or terminate membership.

International Timesharing, by James Edmonds (Services to Lawyers Ltd, Unit 1, Robin Hood Works, Robin Hood Road, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU21 2LX; £18.50.)

## Television screen sizes change to centimetres

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Manufacturers of television sets sold in Britain have been forced to change their description of screen sizes to more accurately reflect the amount of picture seen by the viewer. In order to conform to the standards of other European countries, the new sizes, known as "visible screens", will be shown in centimetres.

The new descriptions have been introduced because of pressure from trading standards officers who believe that buyers think they are getting televisions larger than they really are. At the moment, sets are larger than the screen because of

the mounting surrounds. The change has also come about because it is accepted by the world's tube manufacturers as an international standard.

There were 4.5 million television sets sold or rented in Britain last year. New sets will have the visible screen shown in centimetres but, during the interim phase, probably about two years, the old sizes in inches will be displayed with the new on existing stocks. A typical sign would read "20 inches (old tube measurement): 48 centimetres (visible screen size)". The new size can vary according to the manufacturer.

## Thinking British 'could save 350,000 jobs'

By David Cross

If every bride were to buy British goods when setting up home, 100,000 jobs would be guaranteed for British workers. Alternatively, if everyone in Manchester were to dress exclusively in British clothes, 40,000 jobs would be safeguarded in the textile and clothing industry mainly in the North-west.

Those were among the statistics given at the Piccadilly Theatre, in central London, yesterday when the first awards for the Think British campaign were presented.

The campaign, launched nearly two years ago by a group of celebrities, leaders of women's and consumer movements and the professions, aims to persuade every household to switch £3 of its weekly spending from imports to British goods and thereby save 350,000 jobs in two years.

Dame Shelagh Roberts, a member of the European Parliament and chairman of the Think British Council, said: "In far too many industries, far too many countries make monkeys out of us."

"We insist on playing cricket while the rest of the world responds by bowling us hand grenades," she said. "We are the only campaign with practical answers to the question of how to create jobs and put Britain back on its feet."

The star of the show was Austin-Rover's new silver-grey family saloon, which appeared enshrouded with stage smoke to save the reputation of British

## Asians press for senior legal posts

By Frances Gibb  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor is being urged to introduce a quota system to boost the numbers of Asian lawyers appointed as Queen's Counsel, magistrates and judges.

In a letter to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Society of Asian Lawyers gives a warning that "as a direct result of racial discrimination" large numbers of Asian barristers are now seeking to leave the Bar, severely disillusioned with what the society describes as entrenched racist attitudes.

Mr Rudy Narayan, acting chairman of the society's ad hoc committee, criticizes the latest list of appointments to the rank of Queen's Counsel, released last week, as "savagely exclusive".

He also complains about the non-appointment of an Asian barrister, Mr Ashraf Bashiri, to the ranks of the stipendiary magistracy. Mr Narayan had taken up his case with the Lord Chancellor.

"There is no doubt that there are many of ability and excellence, both among Asian barristers and solicitors, who could and should be appointed," he says.

At present, of some 4,800 practising barristers in England and Wales, about 200, or 4 per cent, are not white. There is no non-white High Court judge. One circuit judge, one stipendiary magistrate, and four assistant recorders are non-white.

An official in the Lord Chancellor's Department said that only within the past 20 years or so had there been a significant increase in the numbers of black lawyers, and judges were appointed only from barristers of many years' experience.

But he added that the department did not "work on the basis of a person's colour."

## 'Give children more say'

Children should have a greater say in divorce, the Children's Legal Centre said yesterday in comments to a government committee on matrimonial proceedings.

"There should be a clear recognition that children are not peripheral to divorce proceed-

ings but are important family members who should have the right to full consultation and representation at all stages," Mr Robert Ludbrook, a solicitor at the centre, said.

The Children's Legal Centre, an independent organization concerned with law and policy affecting young people,



Minister's tribute: The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, visiting a monument north of Seoul, South Korea, to men of the Gloucester Regiment who were overwhelmed by a huge Chinese force during the Korean war. Howe in Tokyo, Page 6.

## Prince will meet claims for paint damage

By Michael Horsnell

Prince Andrew is expected to meet all demands for compensation from the journalists he spattered with white paint from a spray gun during his visit to California last week.

The cost of the damage to cameras and clothes, which happened when he visited the Watts district of Los Angeles to inspect a house reconstruction site, could approach £15,000.

But, so far, claims for only £1,200 have been filed against the Prince with the city's British Consulate which is vetting them before forwarding them, through the Foreign Office, to Buckingham Palace.

A Palace spokesman said yesterday: "We have heard about the claims but none has been received yet. As and when they are received, they will be given the fullest and most urgent attention."

Mr Chris Gulker, a photographer with the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, has filed an \$800 claim and Mr Curt Gunther, an international photographer working for the People magazine has filed for \$400 to replace a paint-spattered camera.

A Herald-Examiner spokesman said he did not know whether the claims would be paid by the Prince. He said: "I don't know that any commitment has been made but I am sure that the claims will be seriously considered."

"We are trying to make arrangements to have the damage independently valued and when we have done that we shall forward the claims to London."

Prince Andrew was in the United States to help raise funds for the British Olympic team. He denied deliberately spraying journalists but made a brief apology 24 hours later.

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## PARLIAMENT April 25 1984

## Tighter controls on Libyans

## LONDON SIEGE

The occupants of the Libyan People's Bureau in St James's Square would not be permitted to remain beyond Sunday night when any diplomatic immunity expired.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons in a statement about the shooting incident in which Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher died.

The police would satisfy themselves he said, that anyone emerging from the bureau was not carrying arms and explosives with them when they left and then that the premises were safe and secure.

The police view (he added) is that without the cooperation of those in the bureau, it does not seem possible that evidence could be obtained which would sustain a court a criminal charge for the murder.

We have informed the Libyans that the staff of the British Embassy will be withdrawn from Libya by midnight on April 29/30 and we look to the authorities there to fulfil their obligation to guarantee their safe departure.

We have also made clear to the Libyan authorities that we hold them responsible for the safety of the British community in Libya to which we have attached the highest importance throughout. We have exercised our right to designate a protecting power to look after their interests.

We are most grateful to the Italian Government for agreeing to undertake this task and the Libyan Government has agreed to this. In London, the embassy of Saudi Arabia will act in a similar way for the Libyans.

Mr Brittan said he was looking carefully at any evidence that the presence of any individual in Britain was against the national interest and was not hesitating to use his powers of removal where it was.

Two Libyans had been deported since the shooting. Libyans who wanted to come to Britain from Libya would, for the time being, have to apply for visas from their own country.

These measures (he said) will ensure that in the coming months any individual who is admitted to this country.

He said that the murder of WPC Yvonne Fletcher was a barbaric outrage which was a totally unacceptable and unprecedented breach of British law, international law and the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations.

I share the national sense of anger at the tragic death of a young policewoman and at the gross abuse of diplomatic immunities which caused it.

We have made every effort to resolve matters peacefully and by mutual agreement. The attitude of the Libyan authorities has made it impossible for normal relations to continue.

We shall continue, as we have throughout, to observe scrupulously our obligations under the Vienna Convention. But what has occurred clearly raises serious questions as to the adequacy of the convention, its operation and enforceability.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will now review these matters and consider whether any forward proposals for changes in the international community.

MPs will appreciate (he added) that until the Libyans who are going have gone and the British Embassy staff in Libya return home the situation remains delicate. But we could not conceivably countenance

with equality the outrage that we witnessed in London last week.

We are responding to it firmly but in accordance with international law. Libya for its part must now accept its clear responsibility for the protection and safe return of our staff in the British Embassy and their families.

He said enquiries into the bomb explosion at Heathrow airport were continuing and it was not yet clear if it was connected with the incident in St James's Square.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said Labour MPs offered their deepest sympathy to the family and friend of Miss Yvonne Fletcher.

She died on duty (he said) and we owe a tribute to her and all the police involved in the tense vigil at St James's Square.

The whole nation feels a bitter anger at the prospect of the murderer escaping the justice which should properly await him. But most people will understand why that outcome seems inescapable.

The British Government must demonstrate the importance of upholding the rule of international law even in the most repugnant circumstances. That means strictly abiding by the terms of the Vienna Convention. It is also proper and necessary in this odious situation that the Government must have the utmost concern for the repercussions of the lives of the embassy staff in Tripoli and their families.

Mr Peter Blaker (Blackpool, South, C) welcomed the Government's intention to review the convention and one of the most important matters is whether diplomatic bags contain weapons. Will the Foreign Secretary raise that with his EEC colleagues?

Mr Brittan: That is one matter which will not be considered but the Vienna Convention states that diplomatic bags shall not be opened or detained.

Mr James Moynihan (Lagan Valley, DUP), Leader of the Opposition, said the long-standing Libyan support for Irish terrorism, will be looked at the desirability of further extending the scope of the Prevention of Terrorism Act and invite the Foreign Secretary to explain to the House the dangers of supporting any branch of international terrorism.

Mr Brittan: We have comprehensively reviewed the prevention of terrorism legislation and are introducing new legislation we made provision to extend that to international, as opposed to Irish, terrorism. I hope the House will feel that that was wise.

Mr David Owen, leader of the SDP: The real questions have to be answered by the Home Secretary - serious questions going right back to September 2, 1979, when the People's Bureau was first established.

There is a disturbing report in the Washington Post today that the Government having been informed that an attack was likely to take place, that shows the need for serious investigation.

I understand that he is not able to answer today on an independent inquiry into all the events flowing from September 1979 right through but that should be undertaken and as much as possible of the results published so that the House and the country can judge the conduct of affairs during that period of four years.

Mr Brittan: I am speaking for the Government as a whole and am ready to answer questions on all aspects, even those which would in other circumstances be answered by the Foreign Secretary.

The breaking of diplomatic relations is a very serious step. It has only been taken by this country since the war in the cases of Albania, Uganda and Argentina.

The international press regards our response to what happened in the streets of London as robust.

With regard to events since 1979, three Libyan dissidents were

murdered on the streets of London in 1980. At that time there was no proof of the involvement of the bureau but none the less, its secretary and three members were declared non grata and had to leave the country.

After the bombing there was no clear link between that and the bureau, but none the less, apart from the four being charged and the trials, I have ordered the deportation of six Libyans.

Mr Eddowes Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) did the Foreign Office pass to the police advance warning that there could be a violent eruption if the protest march went ahead?

Was it a police or a political decision that the waiting and warning strategy which has so often worked should be terminated without result?

How are the police to satisfy themselves that no arms are taken out of the mission if they may not examine the bags?

Is the Home Secretary now prepared to enable the police, when in future they suspect that similar weapons are being brought in in diplomatic bags, to impose them at the point of entry, pending an application for a search warrant in a magistrate's court?

In view of the Libyans' undoubted connections with the IRA, will he make plain that one way or another the murderer of Yvonne Fletcher, if he does not face justice in this country, will be expected to face justice somewhere else.

Mr Brittan: About the change in the law, he knows that I cannot guarantee that to the House because it would be in breach of the Vienna Convention, and in the absence of international agreement, it would not be possible to do that.

About the suggestion of advance warnings by the Foreign Office, the position is that the Libyans came to the Foreign Office, and protested about the impending demonstration.

They talked in terms of not being responsible for the consequences. That is language which has repeatedly been used by the Libyans in this context and what was envisaged was not a march but a demonstration and I do not have the power, in a free society, to ban demonstrations. That is a factor which the House will wish to take into account.

As for the decision on the wait and warn policy, all decisions have been coordinated.

It does not seem possible that evidence could be obtained to sustain in court criminal charges of murder.

Mr Michael Mates (East Hampshire, C): Will ministers return to international community and the weapons which must surely be found and which murdered WPC Fletcher?

Some of us will want to speak more fully when the time is ripe not only about the searching of persons but also about the fact that nothing will have left the People's Bureau which could have been used to perpetrate this outrage. There should be concerted allied action over the Vienna Convention.

Mr Brittan: We have raised this incident with our friends in the international community and many in response have expressed their support for the action we have taken and their horror at what has occurred. The Prime Minister has sent personal messages to certain heads of government and many have taken in the international forum.

With the Vienna Convention applying and being part of domestic law I cannot, by my personal deep regret, give the assurance he seeks.

Mr John Howe Robertson (East Lothian, Lab): Would he comment on press reports that warnings came from intelligence sources of the possibility of an incident? Was any

such warning given and if so, did the Government act on it?

Mr Brittan: It is not the practice to give details of intelligence matters. No specific information that would lead us to believe an incident of this kind would occur was in our hands before the incident occurred.

Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest, C) said there was concern that there might be secondary and other devices inside the building designed to explode after the Libyans had left.

Mr Brittan said that point was one the police had well in mind.

Mr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab): Will he ask Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to ensure that Libyan students in this country are genuine students?

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab): Four years ago some of us raised the issue of the diplomatic bags and were given an indication that electronic scanners were being considered. Surely guns and ammunition would show up on modern scanners?

Mr Brittan: I am advised that without opening the bag or detaining it which is not something permitted under the convention, such scanning would be in present circumstances likely to be of limited value.

Mr George Walder (Buckingham, C) said in relation to the convention they were talking about 140 to 150 countries and it would take a decade to change it. There was need for a European basis.

Mr Brittan said that was one possibility.

Mr Ivor Stansbrook (Oxford, C): Many people are disturbed by the Government's failure to take action against this so-called embassy for so long when it appeared to be a base for terrorist operations and is now a haven for a murderer who will go free. Since none of this was envisaged by the framers of the Vienna Convention, why is it so sacrosanct?

Mr Brittan: One of the reasons is that it happens to be part of our domestic law.

After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords, Lord Mishcon (Lab) asked whether the Government was aware of the incident in The Times which suggested that people in Tripoli knew the identity of the killer and knew that he was not a diplomat.

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, said that was something of which those in Tripoli were not likely to inform the Government, so he was unable to say whether or not the report was true.

Lord Lloyd (C) asked whether the possibility of introducing sanctions against the Libyans had been considered.

Lord Elton said the problem was that such things were not easy to control and they did not always stop where they started.

Lord Chalfont (Ind) asked whether the Government intended to do anything about an educational establishment in Ghebe Palace, Chelsea.

Lord Elton said he knew of the school in Chelsea but the Government did not have such a suspicious view of the premises.

## NUM urged to talk to coal board chief

## COAL DISPUTE

The coal dispute could not be solved by a wave of a wand from outside the industry, Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said in the Commons.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, who had asked about the dispute, said the Government should sort out an energy policy based on long-term planning rather than on short-term financial targets.

Mr Shaw said picking a date for the coal dispute was not going to do anything to resolve the issue. It was a high level for the time of year. It was enough to enable the electricity industry to meet commitments for many years to come.

The chairman of the National Coal Board (Mr Ian MacGregor) had made clear that the board was ready to continue discussions on the industry's long term problems and to achieve restructuring necessary to realize a high volume, low cost industry which was the aim.

The National Union of Mine-workers would not attend any of the industry's consultative committees, including the joint meeting today (Wednesday) of the Coal Industry Consultative Council and the Coal Owners National Council.

Mr Orme said responsibility for the dispute lay with the Government. The dispute (he said) is about jobs, the survival of whole communities and the future of a vital industry. Yet after seven weeks of a major coal strike this Government has not taken any action whatever to reach a solution.

To what extent was the Government subsidizing the National Coal Board to hold out against this strike? How much taxpayers' money was being poured into the industry against the miners? It could be better spent keeping pits open and jobs intact.

How did proposals made by Mr MacGregor, as reported in the press, differ from the regional plan to sack 20,000 miners and close 25 pits?

What efforts was the Government making to get fresh negotiations which put aside the closure plans and bring in a plan for the coal industry agreed by unions and management?

Would the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) and Mr Shaw assume their responsibilities and sort out an energy policy based on long-term planning as opposed to short-term financial targets?

Mr Shaw said the future of coal was mainly within the hands of the industry itself. It had been underwritten by the Government and its predecessors with a lot of taxpayers' money for the industry.

More than £1,000m was going out each year from other workers in the coal industry to subsidize investment in the coal industry at £2m a day, a high level.

It is because we have provided a lot of money (he said) that the industry can look forward to a viable and high production future. This objective was shared by the board and recognized widely within the industry. That was why 40,000 miners were working today.

He hoped the NUM would join in discussions involving the consultative committees.

Mr Shaw said Mr Geoffrey Loffitt (Preston) and Castleford, who the NCB intended to see that year, as last year, there were no involuntary redundancies in the programme.

Sir Anthony Meyer (Clwyd North West, C) said North Wales miners particularly were in a dilemma; they wished to safeguard their excellent reputation by continuing to work. Could the minister give them consolation and ensure that the

Government's commitment to the industry remained entire?

Mr Shaw: I give that assurance.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick upon Tweed, L) said a decisive step should be taken to summon a meeting of the board chairman and the union with just one item on the agenda, Plan For Coal and how it could be implemented.

Mr Shaw said the board and workers in the industry had the capacity to resolve the matter. The NUM was clearly split on the issue and it was not feasible for Mr Beith to suggest that somehow or other it could be resolved by a wave of a wand from outside.

Mr Andrew Stewart (Sherwood, C) said Nottinghamshire miners had voted to continue working and the NCB should implement the new wage proposals on the table since last year so that these miners could get the increased pay award.

Mr Shaw said that this was a matter for the board.

Mr Alexander Eadie (Midlothian, Lab) said Mr Shaw should not deceive the House and the nation by implying that this was just a little local difficulty. Some 80,000 miners were on strike. He should call a meeting of the tripartite inquiry to end the dispute on a policy of conciliation, not confrontation.

Mr Shaw: If it is conciliation he is after, why is there not a national ballot?

Mr William Clark (Croydon South, C) said he had nothing to do with pit closures but was a political strike. It was disgraceful that Mr Arthur Scargill, as head of the union, refused to negotiate.

Mr Shaw said Mr Scargill, president of the NUM, had drawn his own conclusions. He should call a meeting of the tripartite inquiry to end the dispute on a policy of conciliation, not confrontation.

Mr Richard Hickmet (Glanford and Scunthorpe, C): Would he agree that the gravest consequence is upon the steel workers of this country whose jobs depend on coal? It seems apparent the NUM leadership is quite prepared to see the steel industry sacrificed on the altar of Arthur Scargill's political ambition.

Mr Shaw: Arrangements have been made to the steel industry. This is a fragile arrangement and the future of the steel industry is clearly at risk.

Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton North, C): Has he any information as to the cost of this private sector marauding around the North Midlands trying to persuade fellow workers not to go to their place of work, what their rates of pay are and who is financing them?

Mr Shaw: I do not have such information, but miners are losing money as they try to persuade some of their people to prevent them resuming their earnings.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab): Is it not clear that, despite everything the Government and Mr MacGregor try to do, they have totally failed to persuade a vast majority of the NUM (Conservative) about "How do you know?" as evidenced by the fact that the national overtime ban has been going on and 80 per cent of the miners are involved in industrial action, they totally failed to persuade them that it is right to have a massive policy of pit closures?

Is it not also the case that, despite all the assurances given by the minister, the Government cannot maintain energy supplies needed for industry?

Is it not a fact that the support of the transport unions now being given indicates that many millions of people in Britain recognize that



Shaw: A viable and high production future.

the miners, by their action, are safeguarding the future energy supplies of the nation?

Mr Shaw: I hardly think his last statement is consistent with his previous statements. A 4 per cent reduction in output is what is being required of the industry during the next year. That can hardly be stated to be a massive reduction in the industry.

There is £2m investment per day and no suggestion of any major fall in resources. He has to get his facts correct. If the coal industry is to have a future it must produce volume prices according to the market.

Mr Frank Haynes (Ashfield, Lab): When will the minister tell us Ian MacGregor is doing the dirty work of the Government? He has already announced 20 pit closures and if he gets away with those there will be 20 more to follow. Mr Shaw: He knows very well that in the discussions we have had about the future of the coal industry there has been agreement that there has to be no question of maintaining every single pit throughout every year.

What is required now is an acceptance that without that objective being reached soon, the prospects for the coal industry in terms of competing with world supplies are remote.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Can he explain why it is that, on the one hand, the Government is prepared to ensure that oil fields that are marginally uneconomic can get support from the taxpayer as a result of the Bill which has gone through in the last 12 months whereas marginal pits, for some reason or other, which are likely to last much longer, cannot receive the same sort of assistance to keep them open?

Is it not a nonsense to spend £850m currently on this strike, together with the amount being spent on the police on £500 a week, and taking into account that if he looks at the coal industry this winter we started with 53 million tonnes of coal in stock and we are going to start next winter with no less than 30 million tonnes?

Mr Shaw: No.

Mr Ian Wigglesworth (Stockton, South, SDP): The fact is that the people likely to be hardest hit by the strike are the miners. Is that not because the leader of the mine workers' union is seeking to pursue his own political ends in this action? When the miners have bailed out, as they should have done nationally, they have demonstrated that they fully understand that.

Will the Government demonstrate that it fully understands the anxiety in communities that are being directly affected by pit closures, by putting the pressure to do for the coal industry the sort of work British Steel have done after the closure of steel works?

Mr Shaw: I understand the importance of the suggestion but the characteristics of this industry are vastly different from those affecting steel where there were very large plants in very isolated communities.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab): Will electricity prices be raised to fund additional oil purchases by the CEB?

Mr Shaw: That is a matter the CEB will have to consider in due course.

## Major rail closures ruled out

## TRANSPORT

Britain had the worst financed railway system in Europe, Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Hull East, Lab), said in opening a Commons debate on the deterioration of the nation's transport system. The return of five per cent on capital imposed upon the inter-city rail services would not be achieved, he stated.

Mr Prescott, who was moving an Opposition motion condemning the Government for pursuing a transport policy based on an ideological

obsession with competition, profit, privatization, reduced financial support and inadequate investment and calling for the adoption of policies to meet the essential needs of a modern developed economy, said the Government was producing higher fares, fewer services and more redundancies.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, moving an amendment welcoming the Government's steps to improve the transport system, said competition was good for both workers and travellers alike, and for the taxpayers.

At the next meeting of the EEC Council of Ministers, he said, the Government would press for more competition in air services within Europe. There was no reason it should cost more to fly from London to Paris than from London to Glasgow when London-Paris was a shorter haul. The reason for the discrepancy was lack of competition.

The Government would have further plans for privatization of transport industries. Profit and investment in lorries, coaches, cars and planes had been booming, but Labour was interested only in public sector investment.

The Government had been reversing the massive cuts in capital spending on roads.

His policy was to support any worthwhile British rail investment. That was why the Government had approved a £200m investment in Cambridge, Ipswich, Norwich, Harwich and Hastings; approved major new signalling projects; and in the last six months approved new rolling stock comprising 400 vehicles worth £85m.

He did not want a programme of major route closures. What was needed was a modern, efficient railway provided at a low cost to the taxpayer and that depended on providing services customers really wanted.

Instead, the problems are the "sometimes disappointing quality" and the fact that considerable numbers drop out after they have been offered a civil service job.

The report says that a feature of the special scheme to recruit people with managerial skills at the more senior rank of principal "was that in general candidates' salaries in their current jobs were as high as that

which they could be offered as principals, and sometimes exceeded it.

The shortfall in recruits extends right across the spectrum of specialist government jobs, with exceptions for trainee diplomats, planning inspectors and biologists for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. There were notable gaps in new manpower in statistics, computing and all the engineering specialties.

"Recruitment to posts in accountancy is a notable example of the sort of problems we experience when seeking to fill posts in specialisms which are in strong demand and in which there is a national shortage of suitable-qualified people."

Another worry for the Cabinet Office, which controls government manpower, is likely to be the commission's disappointing trail for talent among junior civil service grades as part of an effort to switch people to a "fast track" to responsible management jobs.

Fewer were selected for the scheme than in 1982.

## More talks later this week

## HONGKONG

The next round of talks between the British and Chinese governments on the future of Hongkong will take place on April 27 and 28, Mr Richard Ince, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during questions in the Commons. He hoped the House would have an early opportunity to debate the issue after the return of the 10-minute rule procedure to the House.

Mr Ince said the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Mr Ince said: The best way we can serve the people of Hongkong is to do our utmost to reach an agreement with the Chinese government which enables their way of life to continue as it is now, with their

freedoms, legal system and commercial way of life. This is the best way we can make and we are doing our utmost to achieve just that.

He said Sir Geoffrey Howe had pressed the matter of the necessary durability of an agreement, adding that the Chinese government had said they wanted any agreement to last at least 50 years after 1997.

Nuclear safety

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) was given leave under the 10-minute rule to introduce the Discharge of Radioactive Material (Control) Bill to regulate further the discharge of nuclear material from existing and future nuclear reprocessing plants in the United Kingdom. The Bill was read a first time.

Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, is calling for wider government action to tackle defects in homes built using non-traditional and industrialized construction methods (our Property Correspondent writes).

The demand coincides with the second reading today of the Government's Housing Defects Bill, designed to give a right of assistance to the private owners of certain defective homes of those types.

But Shelter says the Bill cannot on its own provide the solution. "The Government says the Bill will help up to 16,500 owners but the number of potentially defective dwellings could be as high as 1.5 million."

Shelter also says that unless special arrangements are made, the Bill will discriminate against council tenants living in defective homes. While owners will have a right to financial help, councils will have to try to repair tenants' homes with "whatever money they have left after owners have made their claims," Mr Matthews said.

## Talks on snuff substitute from US

## HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government is having talks with an American company which is planning to import into Britain a snuff substitute said to cause cancer of the mouth, Lady Trumpington, for the Government, said during questions in the House of Lords.

Lord Henderson of Brompton (Lab) said the Government had accepted the conclusions of an article in the British Medical Journal that the rapid absorption of nicotine from snuff confirms its potential as an acceptable and relatively harmless substitute for smoking.

Lady Trumpington: On the evidence available there are no indications at

present that snuff taking by inhalation carries any substantial risk to health.

Lord Henderson of Brompton: Why does the Government not actively encourage smokers who can no longer smoke to change to snuff?

Lady Trumpington: The Government would not wish to encourage people to use snuff. Snuff products contain nicotine, an addictive drug, and such practice is to be discouraged.

According to the British Medical Journal, Lord Henderson of Brompton and the chief whip, Lord Denham, qualify as daily snuffers, while apparently I am only a virgin snuffer (Laughter).

Lord Emsay (Lab): While the personal pleasures of snuff snuffing are opposed to solvent abuse seem to

be negligible, this fact is to be exploited as there are reports of an American firm planning to launch on to the British market a product called Snuff Baccini which are sachets placed in the mouth and which have substantially the same effect as snuff, but which produce cancer of the mouth.

Lady Trumpington: I am aware there are plans to put this type of product, currently available in the United States, on the British market.

The Government is having discussions with the company concerned.

Parliament today

Commons (12.30): Housing Defects Bill, second reading, Lords (3): Rates Bill, committee, first day.

## Warning on 'national' police force

## By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Government proposals for an independent national prosecution service could lead to the creation of a national police force, a leading member of the Society of Conservative Lawyers has said.

In an opinion commissioned by the society on the proposals, Mr Evan Stone, QC, criticizes the scale on which the prosecution system would have to be constructed.

The only other country with a fully integrated prosecution service on such a scale



## Average rise in house prices is 2%, survey of agents shows

By Christopher Warman, Anthony Hodges and Howard Underwood

Increasing activity in the housing market in recent weeks, helped by the reduction in stamp duty and the mortgage rate, has pushed up prices substantially as the traditional buying spree begins. It is prompting the question whether Britain is facing a housing boom comparable with that of the late 1970s.

The latest figures for prices, released by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors yesterday, show that nearly half the agents taking part in a survey report price rises of 2 per cent during the first three months of the year. A further quarter report increases of 5 per cent or more.

The definition of a boom varies, but it can be when customers are fighting over a property, when prices are rising so fast that agents have difficulty valuing homes, or when, as one agent said, "you can sell anything".

Those conditions are not in evidence, and Mr John Thomas, an estate agent, and spokesman for the institution, explained that a boom was unlikely this year. The last one, in 1979-80, happened when there was a great deal of money about, at a time of marked inflation, but when purchasing power was strong because wages were rising faster than inflation, he said.

Confidence is returning to the market, but there is still the feeling that interest rates may rise later in the year, which would have an inevitable effect on mortgage rates.

Nationwide, the building society, it must be remembered, has just increased its rate to new borrowers by ¼ per cent.

Mr Nicholas Cooper, of Savills, the estate agents, admitted that prices had moved significantly upwards since last autumn. "It is a strong market and there is a shortage of quality property."

In the London area, he said, the top price range was a particularly strong market,

while the middle range was holding its own.

Although all looks favourable in the North-east with lots of money in the building societies and quite a lot of buyers about, the area was still experiencing difficult economic times which precluded the possibility of a property boom, Mr Peter Miller of Storey Sons and Parker of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, said.

In Norwich, a spokesman for Arnold Son and Hockley, said that the suggestion of a boom was to be treated with suspicion. Property prices close to the city were firm and throughout the area they had risen in the last quarter by 2 to 5 per cent.

While price increases in Chelmsford were to be expected at this time of year, Mr Derrick Norman, of Balch estate agents, said that he could see no boom in the office.

Property in the Windsor area was going very quickly, but that was due more to an acute shortage than anything else, Mr Arthur Beaton, of Tufnell and Partners, said.

There were no trends in Plymouth to indicate a house buying boom was on the way, Mr Graham Adam of Stratton and Holborn, said.

Mr Colin Whicker, manager of the Amersham branch of Hetheringtons, Pretty and Ellis, said: "We are going to see a steadily rising market rather than an actual boom situation". At present we are very busy and selling most things.

Mr P. G. E. Walker of Smith Walker, in Salisbury, was convinced that there will be no boom. "I would say that prices will temporarily remain very buoyant. In the short-term six to eight weeks, they will remain exceptionally high, but I do not think that will be sustained."

Mr R. W. Wallhead, of Walhead, Gray and Coates, of Sunderland, said: "We are enjoying a very busy period at the moment, probably the busiest for a number of years."



Crime and punishment: Rioters hurl stones at shops in Santo Domingo and (right) one protester is marched off at the end of a soldier's rifle butt.

## Deaths in Dominican Republic reach 40

Santo Domingo (Reuters) - The Dominican Republic Army states it is in total control, as the death toll in two days of rioting across the country has risen to more than 40.

The armed forces said in a statement they would remain obedient to President Salvador Jorge Blanco and declared their support for the Government, promising to guarantee peace and order.

The statement, issued after an emergency meeting with the President, said the armed forces lamented civilian loss of life in the riots. Police say more than 40 people have died in clashes with security forces since the riots spread through the country on Tuesday, with demonstrators looting shops and setting fire to buildings. In the provincial cities of Santiago, San Francisco de

Macoris, La Vega and Banti, 17 people have died. Police say 12 people died in the capital on Tuesday, while more than 20 buildings, including a bank, were set on fire by rampaging through the streets. More than 300 people have been arrested since Monday.

This week's violence was caused by the latest in a series of tough steps over the past two years - a rise in basic food

prices of up to 50 per cent to reduce government subsidies. The country has been trying to meet economic targets set by the International Monetary Fund in return for a planned \$450m (£310m) loan.

President Jorge Blanco, a former lawyer and staunch supporter of the United States, won an election in May, 1982, and took office the following August for a four-year term.

## Kabul claims total victory in rebel valley for Russians

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The long-awaited Soviet assault on the Panjshir Valley in Afghanistan has been met, according to the Afghan regime, with complete success.

According to Kabul radio, a combined Soviet and Afghan force is in complete control of the valley. The radio said the valley was quiet and added, oddly enough, that people were free to visit it.

The Afghan media gave no indication of the extent of the resistance to Soviet occupation of the valley, and no details of the forces involved. But Western diplomatic sources in Delhi said that the valley had been softened up over the weekend by high-level bombing from SU18 bombers based in the Soviet Union. This is the first time such bombing raids have been carried out inside Afghanistan.

The sources also gave a warning against believing that the forces of the local mujahidin commander, Mr Ahmed Shah Mahsood, have been put out of action by the Russian incursion.



During the previous Russian attempt to pacify the valley in September and October, 1982, the Western diplomats recalled, Mr Mahsood allowed them to penetrate well inside the valley before harassing them.

As a result of that experience, the Russians negotiated a "peace treaty" with Mr Mahsood, which allowed them to garrison two towns there but left him a free hand to train his guerrilla forces there and to allow his men time with their farms and families.

The treaty expired at the beginning of the year.

## Tamil bodies recovered

The bodies of 13 youths who jumped into the sea when a naval patrol ship fired on the boat in which they were travelling to southern India on Saturday night were washed ashore yesterday at Point Pedro, Sri Lanka.

The patrol ship fired on the boat after it failed to stop when ordered to do so in the northern naval surveillance zone. Of 19 people in the boat, five were captured while one was found to have died of injuries sustained in the firing.

## Drug pedlars' assets 'should be seized'

By Ronald Faux

The property and assets of convicted drug traffickers should be confiscated as part of a more determined drive against drug abuse, Inspector Patrick Kennedy, chairman of the Scottish Police Federation, told the annual conference of the federation in Peebles yesterday. The association represents most Scottish police officers.

Mr Kennedy said that only pathetic attempts had been made so far to tackle the growing abuse of drugs in Scotland. The cost of stronger

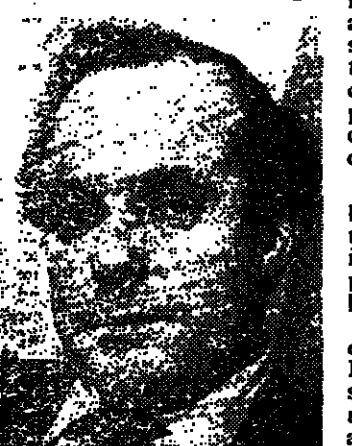
action would be cheap at the price when related to the human misery the problem caused, he said.

Mr Michael Ancram, an Under Secretary of State for Scotland, assured the police officers that the Government shared their deep concern and revulsion at a growing evil, from which no section of society appeared to be immune.

"We are determined to fight it in a coherent and comprehensive way. There is no point in increasing facilities to help addicts without taking steps to staunch the flow of drugs into the country and no purpose in cracking down on pushers if the punishments available to the courts do not offer an adequate deterrent," Mr Ancram said.

The debate came after reports by chief constables in Scotland that reflected an alarming rise in the level of drug abuse, particularly in the misuse of heroin.

This was underlined yesterday in a special study by Lothian Health Board which showed the number of drug users demanding help from the accident and emergency department at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary had risen more than four-fold in the past five years.



Mr Ancram: "Determined to fight abuse".

## Consultants set NHS terms for budget role

By Nicholas Timmins

Making consultants responsible for their spending will require more and better health service accountants, a significant investment in computers, and will take at least five years, a consultants' leader said yesterday.

Budget responsibility is a key element in the Griffiths report on improving health service management, on which ministers hope to act after parliamentary debate next week.

But Dr Maurice Burrows, chairman of the Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, which represents 10,000 consultants, said yesterday that the committee had written to consultants in every hospital laying down conditions which must be met.

They included a significant improvement in the quality of financial information available, and that at first consultants should be answerable only to doctors on the management team.

But Dr Burrows said his committee was divided: "Some are dead set against having anything to do with management budgets; others see it as the way forward."

The future, he said, lay more with the second view. The committee had said in its letter that it hoped to encourage consultants to take on the new responsibilities.

## Film to promote consideration for the deaf

By Bill Johnstone

A fifteen-minute video tape, the sound track of which has been doctored to appear imperfect to the ordinary listener, has been made to illustrate to shop assistants and others who come in contact with the public the frustrations and plight of the hard of hearing.

According to the Sympathetic Hearing Scheme, the makers of the tape, the voices and effects have been so realistically adapted on the tape that the viewer can actually feel the pressures of being deaf or hard of hearing.

The scheme is jointly organized by the British Association of the Hard of Hearing, The British Deaf Association, The National Deaf Children's Society and The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

The film comprises four scenes and two short interviews with sufferers. The scenes demonstrate in dramatic form the problems for the deaf of performing simple everyday tasks.

The first scene shows that the noise in a public house can mean that hearing aids have to be switched off. A scene in a department store shows another sufferer attempting to exchange some clothes. Other scenes illustrate the relief given the deaf when they receive special consideration in shops, offices, banks and other public places.

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## Brazil's direct elections debate

## Cities in grip of noisy protests

From Patrick Knight  
São Paulo

Brazil's cities erupted into sound and light as thousands of motorists sounded their horns, fireworks exploded, saucers were banged and lights flashed on and off as people demonstrated in favour of direct elections.

Except in Brasília, the protest on Tuesday night, the first of its size in Brazil, was entirely peaceful. In the tense capital many motorists were arrested in the vicinity of Congress and the presidential palace, and some were beaten up by the strong force of police and soldiers occupying the city, who tried in vain to stop the noise.

Congress, which was surrounded by a strong force of soldiers for three hours on Tuesday, began punctually at nine o'clock yesterday morning to debate the amendment calling for direct elections. The outcome, at least in the



Senator Guimarães: Strong speech in Congress.

Chamber of Deputies, is still uncertain.

Even though they know that the Senate will inevitably reject the proposal, many Government party deputies may vote in favour, defying party pressure. But responding to public opinion. A Gallup poll in São

Paulo has shown that 84 per cent of the population here is in favour of direct elections now.

The vote on the amendment was not expected to begin until the early hours of this morning. A group of 800 students sitting in the main hall of Congress were expelled by troops on Tuesday, and tear gas was used to disperse them outside. Several arrests were made.

In a speech to Congress, the president of the opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement (PMDB), Senator Ulysses Guimarães, said that the House was being profaned and mutilated by the emergency measures, which were preventing people from seeing and hearing what was being done.

No political news was broadcast from Brasília on television on Tuesday night, and programmes were shortened by 15 minutes. The debate and the result of the vote will be made

known in special editions of newspapers and on big outdoor screens in most cities. Telephone communications with the capital are normal.

There were many incidents involving the arrest of journalists and protesters in the capital on Tuesday, while passengers from outside Brasília were turned off 10 buses arriving from São Paulo as they approached the city.

In a sign of the way things may go, President João Baptista Figueiredo spent more than an hour on Tuesday with the PMDB Governor of Minas Gerais state, Senator Tancredino Neves. The president said that Senator Neves was "a man worthy of leading the project of national reconciliation", although Senator Figueiredo also regretted that the opposition was not allowing any scope for negotiations, and there was now an impasse.



Shouldering arms: A Khmer rebel carrying rocket-propelled grenades to the front at Ampil.

## Hundreds killed in fight for Thai border base

## Crisis for Europe's coastlines

From Mario Modiano  
Athens

Environment ministers and experts from the 21 member states of the Council of Europe were urged yesterday to agree to immediate action to protect their coastal areas, river banks and lake shores from further destruction before it was too late.

Herr Karl Ahrens, president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, told the opening session of the fourth European ministerial conference on the environment: "Damage to the environment in Europe is already so serious that we can no longer postpone action."

The three-day conference, in which Britain is represented by Sir William Williamson, chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council, is considering a Greek report calling for the introduction of an ecological dimension into all future plans for economic development.

Speakers at the opening session, which included Mr Antonis Trisis, the Greek Minister for the Environment, and Signor Gaetano Adinolfi, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, expressed concern that Europe's economic difficulties tended to produce budgetary restrictions for national environmental programmes.

## Plea to put Anzacs on the map

By Tony Duboudin  
Melbourne

Australia is to ask the Turkish Government formally to rename the site of the 1915 Gallipoli landing by Australian and New Zealand troops as Anzac Cove.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, said that the proposal by the Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs had a "great deal of merit" and would get the full support of the Australian Government.

The legion, he said had also suggested that some parts of Australia should be named to commemorate the bravery of the Turkish soldiers who took part in the Gallipoli battles.

"If this proposal were accepted the bravery of the two armies who fought so vigorously nearly 70 years ago would be commemorated in an appropriate and enduring way", the Prime Minister said.

"It would keep alive for future generations of Australians and Turks alike the memory of heroism and self-sacrifice that distinguished both the Anzacs and Turkish participants in the campaign."

Mr Hawke said that he had asked Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, to arrange for the Australian Embassy in Ankara to inform the Turkish Government of Australia's full support for the proposal.

## Prague takes softer line on Catholics

From Richard Bassett  
Vienna

The position of the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Europe varies considerably from one country to another. In Hungary, it has adopted a more pragmatic stance to communism than in Poland, while in Czechoslovakia, relations between church and state remain at a low ebb.

The contrast between the position of the church in Hungary and its communist neighbours was highlighted earlier this month. The Primate of Hungary, Cardinal László Lakai, told journalists in Vienna that the era of confrontation with communism was over. Communism, he said, no longer wanted to destroy the church.

But in Czechoslovakia, relations between the clergy and government are strained. The Vatican is pressing the Government to appoint bishops to vacant dioceses.

Prague is adamant that the posts be filled by men approved by the Government and, if possible, members of its own religious organization. The Vatican has made no secret of the fact that it would be happy to see Pázmány in Teris abolished.

Last winter, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, Mr Bohuslav Choupek, went to the Vatican to discuss the vacant bishoprics. Diplomatic sources described the talks as open and frank, suggesting that considerable disagreement remains.

Things were not helped when a number of Slovak bishops, hearing of the proposed stationing of nuclear missiles on Czechoslovak territory, issued a statement condemning their use as a crime against humanity.



Cardinal Tomasek: Poor relations with the state.

Another attempt at improving relations between church and state will be made next month, when Mr Vladimir Janku, Czechoslovak Minister for Religious Affairs, visits the Vatican for more talks.

Such visits suggest the Prague Government has moved away from its hostile attitude to the Vatican and the Pope, whom the party paper, *Rude Pravo*, once described as the incarnation of an anti-communist pope.

When the Pope visited Vienna last year, the same newspaper issued a strident condemnation of Catholic Day celebrations he took part in.

In Hungary, such obvious hostility between church and state is absent. There, the Government subsidizes construction of religious training buildings and allows religious teachers in schools.

In return, Cardinal Lakai pursues a policy of peaceful coexistence and compromise, enjoying, as a result, far better relations with the Government than his opposite number in Prague, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek.

## Japan supports Howe on breach with Libya

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

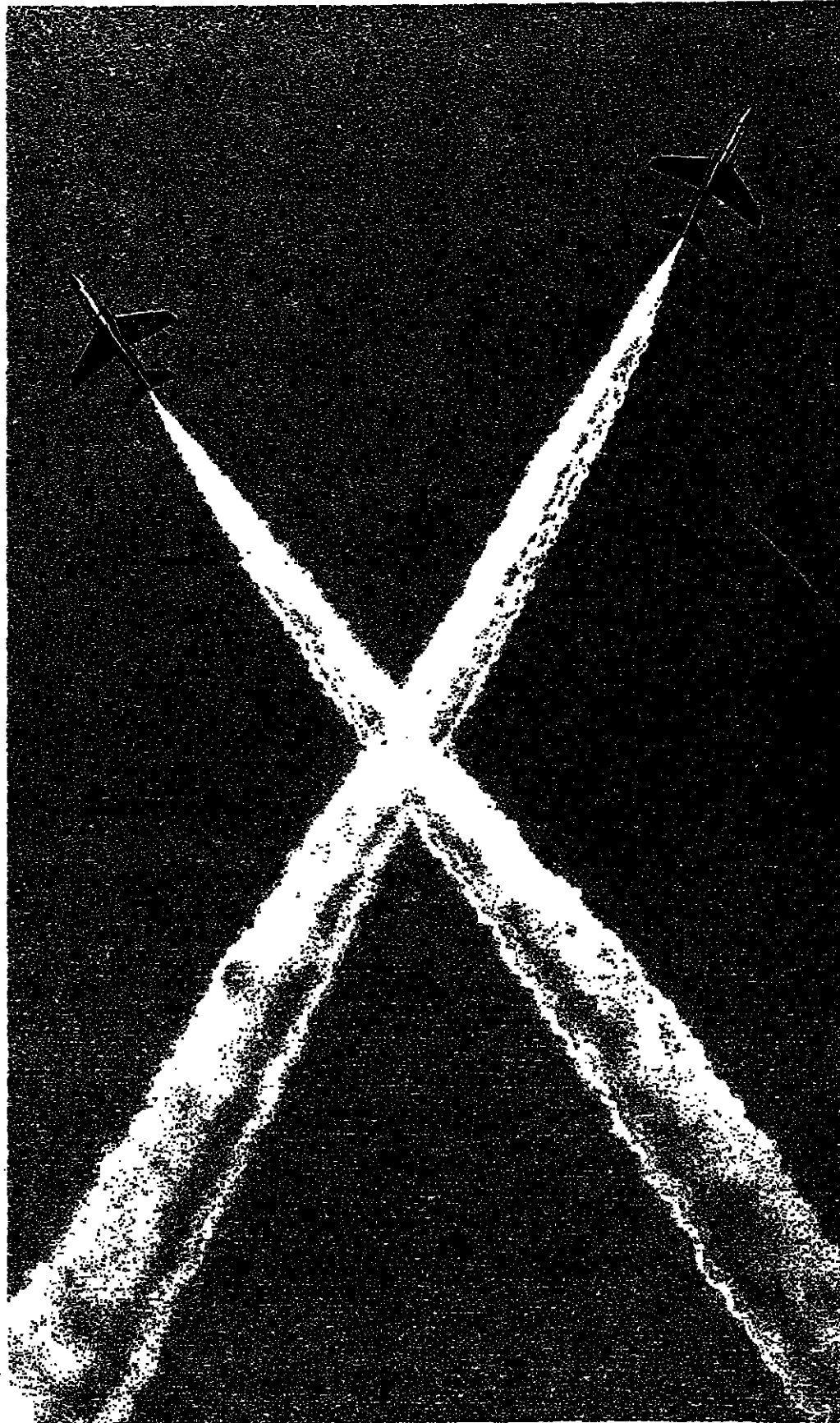
Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday began a round of ministerial talks with Japanese officials. He arrived from South Korea earlier, on the last stage of an Asian tour.

In a two-hour meeting with Mr Shintaro Abe, the Japanese Foreign Minister, Sir Geoffrey painted a gloomy picture of relations with the Soviet Union. He said it would be very difficult for the West to expect a return to arms control talks before the US Presidential elections in November.

Mr Abe appeared to be in full agreement. He expressed his strong support for the action taken by the British Government in breaking off diplomatic relations with Libya. Today Sir Geoffrey is to meet Mr Abe again to discuss economic and trade issues. He will later meet Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister.

A spokesman for Sir Geoffrey said the Japanese had not raised the issue of Hong Kong's future in detail, but the matter probably would be brought up later in the visit. The Foreign Secretary leaves for Britain tomorrow.

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## China aims to obtain big trade and technology deals from Reagan visit

From David Bonavia, Peking

President Reagan arrives here today for the first visit to China by an American Chief Executive since that of President Gerald Ford in 1975.

China is expected to use Mr Reagan's visit to extract maximum concessions in trade and technology supply, while its leaders are fully conscious that, from Mr Reagan's point of view, the trip is mainly an exercise in electioneering.

An agreement on Chinese purchase of US nuclear technology is expected to be signed, though there have been sharp disagreements over the degree of inspection demanded by the Americans.

The Chinese see foreign statesmen mainly from the point of view of their own national interest, and in large matters such as relations with the Soviet Union they seem to regard Mr Reagan as a realist.

If they are hostile towards his Middle East and Latin American policies, it is largely because they fear those policies will result in a power vacuum, giving the Soviet Union the opportunity to step in, to the disadvantage of the world in general.

Among international issues Mr Reagan is expected to discuss with the Chinese leaders are the need for a settlement in Korea; ways of putting an end to Vietnam's occupation of Cam-

bodia; problems of East-West trade and US policy in arms reduction talks with the Soviet Union.

Of these, Korea is the most likely to show progress in return for effort invested. North Korea has recently tilted somewhat towards the Soviet Union after more than a decade of leaning towards China in its foreign policy.

This makes it important for both China and the United States to stabilize the situation with some new formula for lasting peace.

China no longer believes that union of north and south Korea is practicable in the foreseeable future, and supports instead the idea of a loose confederation, little more unified than the two Germanies, but containing two separate ideologies and political systems.

After long hesitation, China has begun low-level moves to establish a friendly relationship with South Korea. It is widely agreed that a conference of interested parties is needed, and the Chinese will want to discuss with Mr Reagan what role both they and the United States should play.

Relations between China and the United States, which had been almost artificially friendly from 1972 on, took a downturn in the late seventies for a number of reasons, including US pursuit of détente with the

Soviet Union, and congressional moves to safeguard American relations with Taiwan.

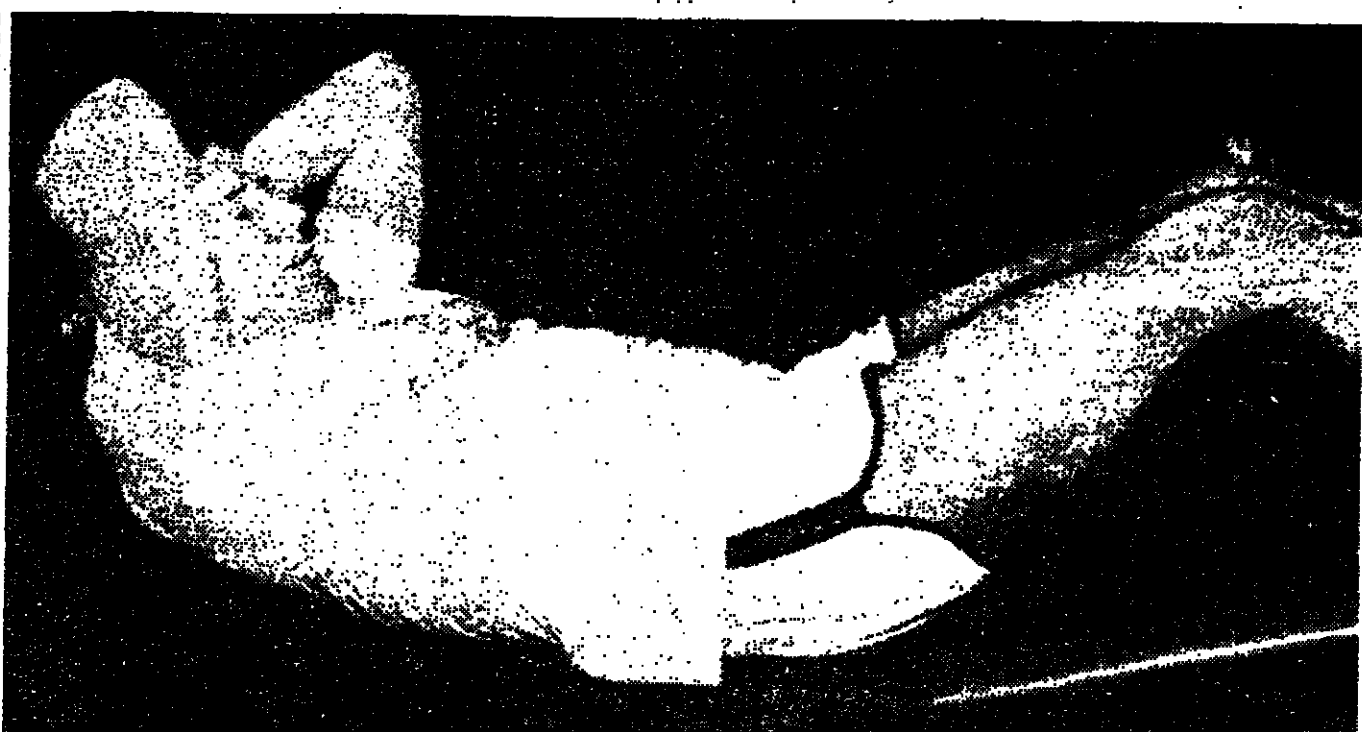
Despite the full normalization of diplomatic relations in 1979, tensions over Taiwan and arms sales to the Kuomintang regime there persisted. New issues, such as Chinese textile exports to the United States and imports of technology by China, brought Sino-American relations to a new low point.

Since then considerable progress has been made, especially over the question of US arms sales to China, which are likely to be brought to general agreement during Mr Reagan's visit.

This will also be an opportune moment for the disclosure of plans to take a Chinese astronaut into space, and thereby match the Soviet Union, which allowed an Indian spaceman to accompany a recent mission.

Last year Sino-American trade reached a total of \$4.4bn (£3.1bn), and US investment in development projects in China is put at \$88m. Thirteen American companies are participating in the search for offshore oil in Chinese waters.

The loosening of American restrictions on exports of high technology to China has brought an upsurge of trade in this sector.



Fighting fit: Sit-ups from Senator Hart before a busy campaign day in Cleveland, Ohio.

## Vermont puts new life in Hart campaign

Senator Gary Hart's challenge for the Democratic presidential nomination gained a much-needed boost on Tuesday night when he captured a majority of 13 national convention delegates at stake in local caucuses in more than 190 Vermont communities.

With more than two-thirds of the 1,530 state convention delegates selected, the Colorado senator held a commanding lead over former Vice-President

Walter Mondale. Results from 158 of the town caucuses showed that Mr Hart had 677 local delegates, or 49 per cent, to Mr Mondale's 458, or 33 per cent. The Rev Jesse Jackson won 192, or 14 per cent, and 66 delegates were uncommitted.

Senator Hart, who won the state's non-binding presidential preference primary on March 6, ran well in Tuesday's caucuses in the largest cities and in small villages.

## Lagos is top of the costs in survey of 93 cities

Despite soaring inflation, the main cities of Latin America are "downright cheap" to business executives being paid from abroad in foreign currencies, especially dollars. On the same basis, Europe is "something of a bargain".

These are the conclusions of *Business International's* annual survey of executive living costs in 93 key cities, of which Lagos and Tokyo rank, for the third

year running, as the most expensive places of all. Using New York, at 100, as the basis of comparison, their cost of living indices are 139 and 130 respectively.

London rates 78, Geneva and Helsinki 88, Zurich 89, Oslo 99, Amsterdam 71, Brussels 67, Copenhagen 78, Frankfurt 74, Madrid 61, Paris 75, Rome 73 and Stockholm 77 in the cost of living table.

## Food aid convoys run rebel gauntlet

From Stephen Taylor Harare

A sensitive operation is under way to ship emergency food supplies to Zimbabwe through a hazardous corridor in Mozambique, where the convoys risk attack from hostile guerrillas.

Armoured units of the Zimbabwe Army are assisting Frelimo forces to protect maize convoys from the Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) on the journey from Malawi through Tete province in Mozambique.

The 50,000 tons of maize being moved in this way - 70 per cent of it bought with British aid - is a vital part of the food Zimbabwe must have in the next few weeks, before the new harvest reaches the grain silos.

Drought has devastated the harvest, which will be less than half the country's needs and existing stocks are exhausted.

The three haulage companies involved in the shipment decided on the risky 70-mile Tete route, in spite of a spate of recent MNR attacks on the road in which a number of drivers have been killed, to save time and money on the much longer journey through Zambia.

South Africa's withdrawal of its backing for the MNR, under the recent Nkomati peace accord with Mozambique, appears to have had no effect on guerrilla attacks so far.

## Japanese raise doubts on Aquino killing

Manila (AP) - The board investigating the killing of Benigno Aquino, the Philippines opposition leader released a report of its February inquiry in Japan in which two witnesses challenged military claims that a communist agent was the killer.

The Japanese police report included testimony from a Kyodo news service journalist and a freelance writer who both said they did not see who shot Aquino but saw the alleged assassin, Rolando Galman, "dazed" or "staggering" seconds after the killing.

Mr Andres Navrasa, the board's counsel, said in an interview that the Japanese testimony was "inconsistent with the government version" that Galman killed Aquino.

Katsuo Veda, the Kyodo journalist, said Galman was "just dazed" as he stood near Aquino's body. Kiyoshi Wakamiya, the freelance writer, said Galman was "staggering like he had been pushed out."

Mr Wakamiya also testified that Quino told him that Mrs Imelda Marcos, the President's wife, warned him not to come home from the United States because "we have loyal boys who may kill on their own."

The board's chairwoman, Corazon Agrava, said in a Tokyo television interview after hearing the testimony that the Philippine Government's contention that Galman killed Quino "may not be so", she said he "may have died by some other hand" than Galman.

## Law Report April 26 1984

### Tenant of resident joint landlord not protected

Cooper v Tait

Before Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Stephen Brown [Judgment delivered April 12]

A joint landlord living in a part of a building was the resident landlord for the purpose of excluding a tenancy of another part of the building from the protection of section 12(1) of the Rent Act 1977.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the tenant, Miss Maura Tait, from a decision of the County Court Judge Butler whereby she was ordered to give up possession of premises at Ossington Street, Paddington, London, to the landlords, Mr Eric Cooper, Mr Paul Cooper and Miss Hilary Cooper.

Section 12 provides: "(1) ... a tenancy of a dwelling-house granted on or after August 14, 1974 shall not be a protected tenancy at any time if - (a) the dwelling-house forms part only of a building and the building is not a purpose-built block of flats; and (b) the tenancy was granted by a person who, at the time when he granted it, occupied as his residence another dwelling-house which - ... (i) ... forms part of the building; and (ii) ... at all times since the tenancy was granted the interest of the landlord under the tenancy has belonged to a person who, at the time he owned that interest, occupied as his residence another dwelling-house which - ... (i) ... also formed part of the building."

Mr Gordon Bennett for the tenant, Mr Geoffrey Stephenson for the landlords.

LORD JUSTICE EVELLEIGH said that the question was whether a tenancy was protected when it was granted by joint owners of the property and one of them was residing there but the others were not.

### Effect of due diligence and expedition term

Greater London Council v Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co Ltd and Another

A term in a contract which entitled an employer to discharge contractors if they failed to exercise due diligence or expedition in their performance of the contract did not of itself cause the contractors to be in breach of contract and thus liable to the employer in damages, if they failed to exercise due diligence or expedition.

Mr Justice Staughton so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on April 12, dismissing an appeal by the Greater London Council from an award of an arbitrator arising out of a dispute regarding the construction of parts of the Thames Barrage.

HIS LORDSHIP said that, even if he were wrong regarding the effect of that term or if there were an implied term requiring due diligence or expedition, such a requirement would have to be

50 per cent share of the house, lived in the basement flat.

In December, 1982, the landlords served a notice to quit and claimed possession from the tenant. Was the judge right in holding that the tenancy was not a protected tenancy under section 12? He had been guided by the House of Lords decision in *Tilling v Whitman* ([1980] AC 1).

That case was concerned with Case 10 of Part II of Schedule 3 to the Rent Act 1968. The words of Case 10 were utterly different from section 12, with which their Lordships were concerned.

Did the facts of the present case fall within the section? It was possible to argue that Mr Eric Cooper did not grant the tenancy but his Lordship took the view that he granted it, albeit in conjunction with others.

There was no reason to read into the section any words to the effect that the resident landlord had to grant the tenancy alone. It was to be noted that the 1977 Act did not state the nature of the landlord's interest.

The case was not entirely easy. It would be too easy to say it was on all fours with *Tilling*, but that was not a permissible conclusion. His Lordship's conclusion was the result of applying the words of section 12. The result accorded with the intention of the legislature: to encourage people to divide up accommodation so as to create more than one dwelling-house without being afraid that they would be unable again to have their premises under their control because of the provisions relating to protected tenancies.

Mr Eric Cooper came within section 12 and, accordingly, the tenancy was not protected under the section.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN, agreeing, said that the decision in *Tilling* was of assistance in the present case. Absurd and unjust results would follow from any other construction of section 12. Solicitors: Lewis & Pearson; Blackie Gill & Swain.

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Where through lack of specialist knowledge the public could be led astray the rules are detailed and specific.

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An investment ad inviting direct response has to include a great deal of explanatory wording.

For instance, past growth of '500% in 5 years' would have to be qualified by the exact five years to which it referred.

And all investment ads have to carry wording to the effect that the value of investments and the income from them, if quoted, can go down as well as up.

### WHEN ONE AND ONE MAKES SIX

In protecting the public from being misled we are often accused of being pernickety.

We once received a complaint that a car with a 1442cc engine had been advertised as a '1.5'.

People 'in the know' apparently accept this as normal. But our complainant pointed out that his employer's mileage allowance for a '1.5' was for engines over 1451cc.

What meant little to the car trade meant a lot to him, and we were pleased that the advertiser amended the ad to include the exact engine size in the text.

### READING BETWEEN THE LINES

It's not enough for a building society to promise 'worth 13.93% to basic rate income tax payers' when the actual interest rate can fluctuate. This must be made clear.

A hi-fi manufacturer should not merely advertise that his equipment develops a certain number of watts.

Since there are several different ways of measuring sound output, he should state which method he used and give the reader a fair basis for comparison.

And as for computers it is not on to advertise what a piece of equipment will do and

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If he cannot, or refuses, we ask him to withdraw it completely. Nearly all agree without further argument.

In any case we inform the publishers, who will not knowingly accept any advertisement which we have decided contravenes the Code.

If the advertiser refuses to withdraw the advertisement he will find it hard if not impossible to have it published.

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In fact the ASA was set up by the advertising business to make sure the system of self-control genuinely worked in the public interest.

For this to be credible the ASA has to be totally independent of the business.

Neither the chairman nor the majority of his council members is allowed to have any involvement in advertising.

Though administrative costs are met by a levy on the business, no advertiser has any influence over ASA decisions.

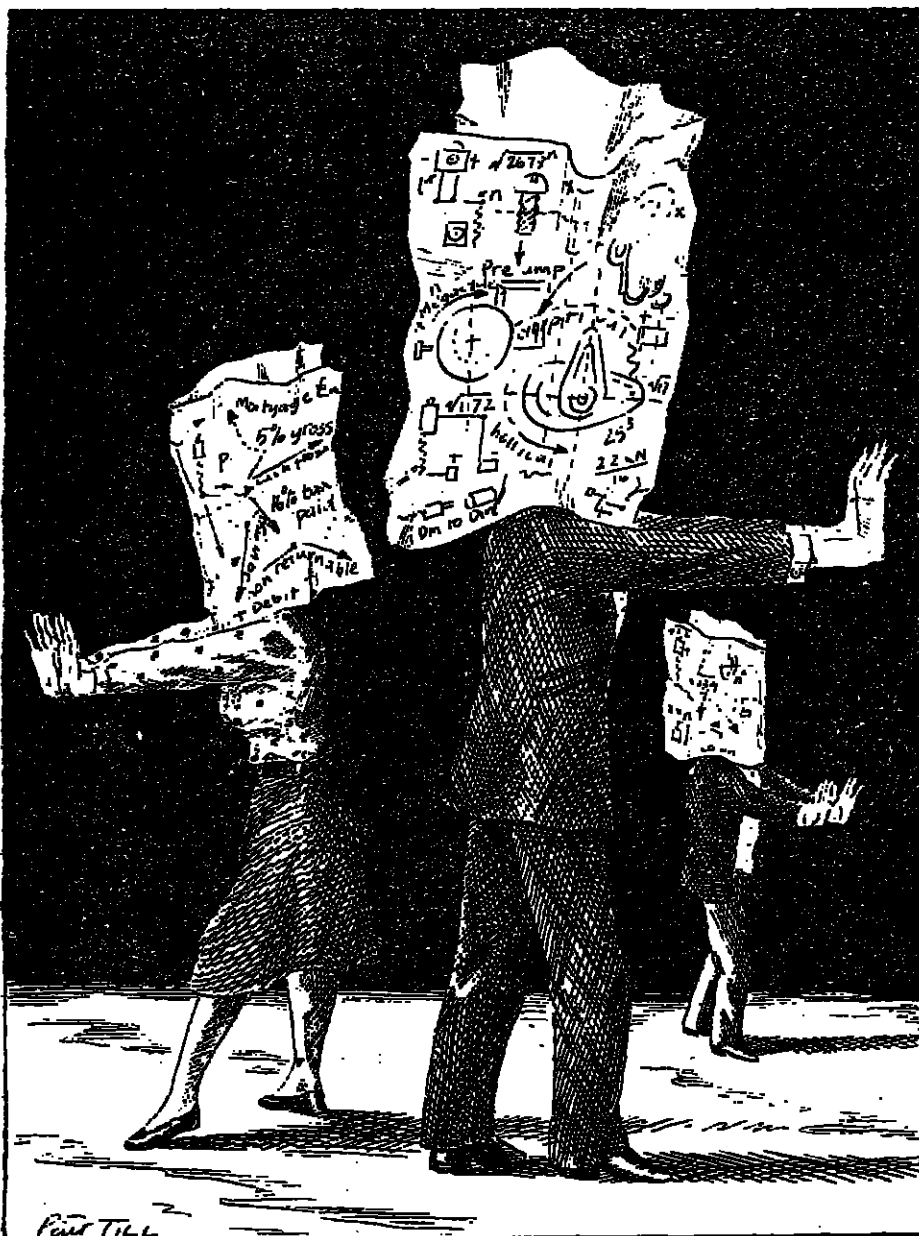
Advertisers as a whole accept it is as much in their interests as the public's to keep on the right side of the rules.

If you would like to know more about the ASA and the rules it seeks to enforce you can write to us at the address below for an abridged copy of the Code

### The Advertising Standards Authority

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ASA Ltd, Dept. F, Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN.





## Controversy over bus hijack in Israel

### Doubts raised on killing reinforced by photograph

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Allegations that two of the four Arabs who hijacked a bus earlier this month may have been captured alive and later killed by the Israeli security forces appear to have been strengthened yesterday by the first publication here of a photograph showing a man - apparently one of the hijackers - being led away under Israeli guard.

The photograph, of considerably poorer quality than others known to exist but not yet permitted to appear, makes it clear that the presumed hijacker was alive when he left the bus, but his state of health is not apparent because of the angle from which the picture was taken.

The original call for an official inquiry from Mr Yossi Sarid, the opposition Labour MP, has been taken up by Mr Ehud Olmert, an influential backbench supporter of the ruling Likud coalition, and Mr Victor Shemtov, leader of the left-wing Mapam party. Mr Olmert has voiced reservations about whether the results should be made public.

It is understood from Israeli sources that the internal Army investigation into the hijacking is expected to be handed to Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, in the next few days. But no indication is available about whether any details will be released to the press or even to the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

The dramatic but blurred photograph of the young man being led away from the

crippled bus by three uniformed soldiers - one holding a large pistol in his right hand - appeared on the front cover of the weekly news and satirical magazine, *Haolam Hazeh* (This World) which has a long tradition of exposing sensitive stories. Another photograph taken from the rear appeared inside with a long article from which a number of details had been censored.

Mr Uri Avnery, the editor, said the military censor had banned publication of the photograph last week, when the magazine appeared with a blank space, but had sanctioned it after lawyers had threatened to take the case to the High Court. A copy of the letter threatening court action was also sent to the Attorney-General and Defence Minister.

"Obviously, they did not want to face the prospect of arguing their case in court, so they gave us permission earlier this week to go ahead," Mr Avnery said. "Our picture taken by one of our photographers shows clearly that one of the hijackers was taken alive from the bus. My belief is that he was shot soon after it was taken."

Asked why the political storm had taken so long to gather, Mr Avnery said: "It is probably out of a misplaced sense of patriotism. This issue has grave moral and political implications for the handling of such incidents in the future. But many people here believe it is not good for the *goyim* to know what happened."

The army spokesman in



In the dark: A copy of *Haolam Hazeh's* blurred print, suggesting that the man being led away was alive immediately after troops stormed the bus.

Jerusalem refused to comment when shown the photographs, pointing out that an investigation was under way. He did not attempt to question the identity of the man being led away by the soldiers.

Mr Avnery, who earned international notoriety in 1982 when he entered besieged Beirut to interview Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chief, said he

believed his photograph showed a different hijacker than another - still banned by the censors - which has been identified as showing Mr Majidi Abu Jumaa, aged 18, being led off the bus by two plain-clothed security men.

Mr Yossi Klein Klein, editor of the Tel Aviv daily, *HaDeshot*, which has the much clearer photograph of Mr Jumaa in its possession, confirmed to *The*

*Times* last night that the magazine photograph was of a different man. "We can only be sure of the identification of the hijacker in our picture which we have carefully checked with relatives and neighbours", he said.

On Tuesday Mr Klein said a private meeting with Mr Arens, but would not reveal any details.

## Bombings in southern Lebanon

### Israelis suspect a Syrian connexion

From Robert Fisk, Deir Qanoun, southern Lebanon

Just after 3.30 on the afternoon of April 12, a schoolboy in his late teens called Ali Safadin was sitting in a green Fiat car on the little bridge just west of Deir Qanoun, an unpopulated village that struggles untidily up the side of a low hill not far from Tyre.

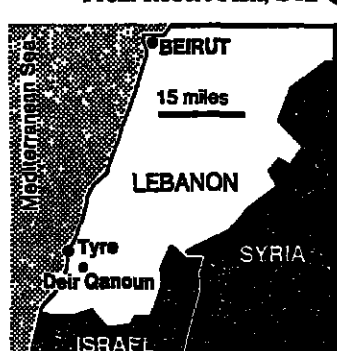
Several people saw him sitting in the car. One of them noticed that he seemed distracted and asked if he felt unwell. "Give my family my regards", was all he said.

Dola Harmanani, a 15-year-old schoolgirl from the village passed Safadin as she walked home from the house of some relatives. He seemed to be "thinking", she said.

A few seconds later, two Israeli armoured personnel carriers came up the road towards the village and Safadin started his car. Dola Harmanani did not see what happened next but she heard the explosion. She fell on to the ground, cutting her face open on the stones of the road as Safadin rammed his car between the Israeli vehicles and detonated a huge bomb which he was carrying with him.

It tore him literally to pieces - the villagers had to go round picking up the bits afterwards - and turned one of the Israeli carriers into an inferno of exploding ammunition. Four of the soldiers were carried away wounded. Dola Harmanani ran home to her parents. "I cried when I saw myself in the mirror", she said.

The explosion of Ali Safadin's bomb had reverberations that went far beyond Deir Qanoun, for it was one of the first occasions when anyone was



Map showing the location of Deir Qanoun in southern Lebanon, near the border with Syria.

suspicious manner on the main road north of Marjayoun above a ravine formed by two almost sheer cliffs. They later came across a steel box lying beside the tarmac containing Soviet-made 400-gram TNT explosives - each stick with Russian writing stamped on the side - surrounded by heavy iron screws and nuts. The bomb was connected to a complex radio detonation system, a reconstructed walkie-talkie from which all but one of the crystals had been removed, setting the detonator on a very specific frequency.

The Norwegians surrounded the car on a neighbouring road and the two young men inside - both Sunni Muslims from the village of Kfar Shouba, a hamlet that is supposed to be controlled by Israel's Lebanese militias - said they were members of the Lebanese Communist Party.

Then last month, the Norwegians found a similar bomb on the same stretch of road with an identical detonating system but this time with three Russian hand-grenades and a British-made mortar projectile as explosives. Once again, the men involved - one of whom was a Christian - said they were members of the Lebanese Communist Party.

One of them also said that they had planted the bomb in return for money which was to help pay for a course in electronics at a Soviet university. Another piece of evidence was a plastic supermarket bag inside the first bomb which had come from a shop in Chaurra in the Syrian-occupied part of Lebanon. It had somehow been brought across the front lines to Israeli-occupied territory.

Major Torleif Sandnes of the Norwegian Army summed it all up quickly: "These men knew what they were doing", he said. "The detonating system was very professional. They were taking orders, I think, from a gentleman in the Bekaa." Just who this gentleman might be, the Norwegians are not revealing although the Syrian connexion appears to be strong - as the Israelis themselves have been suggesting.

The UN handed the first two men over to the Christian gendarmerie in Marjayoun whence they are believed to have been taken by the Israelis. The Norwegians freed the second two.

But the principal effect of the guerrilla attacks against the Israelis is psychological. Across southern Lebanon at night, the occupation army virtually disappears, the Israeli troops staging a dark withdrawal behind the earthen ramparts of their fortifications. The roads are dangerous. No Jeeps or tanks travel. Just south of Ebl el-Saqi this week, there was a lone Israeli checkpoint where a soldier who identified himself only as Moshe made his own judgment.

"I don't know who is attacking us", he said. "Some do it for money. They put the explosives by the side of the road and run off to the fields and detonate the bombs from there. We don't catch them. (President) Assad is behind it. The Syrians want to take attention off their problems at home."

Assad or not, the Israelis have enough problems of their own in Lebanon.

The battle over proposed new US export controls on goods of military value to the Soviet Union moves into its most difficult phase this week as Congress reconvened to take final action on legislation which has been strongly opposed by Europeans.

Not since the pipeline controversy of 1982 has a trade-related issue created such strong tensions among allied governments which differ sharply on the use of export controls for national security reasons.

The Reagan Administration, in proposing legislation to extend the Export Administration Act, asked Congress to invest the President with expanded powers to restrict technology trade for national security purposes and to extend these controls to foreign companies.

The two houses of Congress have now passed sharply different versions of the legislation. A bipartisan group of congressional leaders will meet this week to begin tough negotiations on a final, compromise version.

In anticipation of these meetings, the European Community has launched an unprecedented direct lobbying campaign in an attempt to influence the deliberations.

## Last phase in battle over Soviet export curb

From Bailey Morris

Washington

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The fear in Europe is that proponents of tougher export controls in the Defence Department and elsewhere in the Administration will win, thus raising the spectre of a new, deeply divisive US-European confrontation over high technology trade.

"If the Defence Department is given the final say then we are headed for a major fight with the United States which will make chickenfeed of our agricultural dispute," said Viscount Evers, a member of the House of Lords, Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for Industry.

A further tightening of US controls would adversely affect existing cooperative arrangements between European and American companies and threaten such ventures, in future, Viscount Davignon said. "We would become two armed camps."

House and Senate negotiators are divided over the breadth of controls proposed in their respective Bills. The EEC favours the less restrictive House version, which would protect the sanctity of existing commercial contracts and limit controls to only a short list of truly strategic technological equipment.

The Senate version would extend controls to a wide variety of goods and broaden the Government's power to impose extra-territorial controls on foreign companies engaged in technology trade.

In addition, there is sharp disagreement over which agency should be given authority to enforce export controls. The House version - sponsored by Mr Don Bonker, from Washington - would leave it with the US Commerce Department, which advocates a moderate approach to controls.

## California let off lightly by strong earthquake

From Ivor Davis

Los Angeles

The earthquake that rocked San Francisco and other northern California cities on Tuesday injured at least a dozen people, started fires, forced the evacuation of a school and destroyed houses near San Jose.

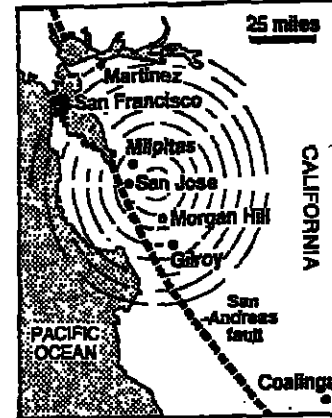
"My house looks like a hurricane hit it," said Mr Bill Berry, basketball coach at San Jose State University, who lives in a district known as Morgan Hill. "Things were flying everywhere. I tried to stand up but I couldn't. It was rocking too much."

The earthquake's epicentre was 12 miles east of the heavily populated city of San Jose, which is 50 miles south of San Francisco. It registered 6.2 on the Richter scale, according to scientists at the University of California at Berkeley.

The worst damage occurred around Morgan Hill, a farming town of 16,000 people 10 miles from San Jose. It hit at 1.15pm on Tuesday and two fires broke out immediately. Seismologists said the earthquake, followed by a series of smaller aftershocks, was centred on the Calaveras fault line and not on the extremely active San Andreas fault, which is where most previous earthquakes have occurred.

Skyscrapers in San Francisco swayed for up to half a minute and in Berkeley and Oakland many office workers ran into the street. At one high school some 2,000 youngsters left their classrooms and ran for open spaces.

Most of the injuries were in Morgan Hill where 12 people, including four children, were hurt, none of them too seriously. Nine homes were damaged



Map showing the location of the earthquake epicentre near San Jose, California, and the surrounding areas including San Francisco, San Jose, and Coalinga.

there, four of them completely wrecked. Damage was estimated at between \$5m and \$10m. However, except for broken windows and food tumbling off supermarket shelves, miraculously there was little additional damage. At a San Francisco restaurant the shock started people at lunch but when it was over, the restaurant manager said: "They clapped and went back to their food."

Officials at Anderson Dam, five miles from San Jose, noted a new crack but said there was no apparent danger to residents from flooding.

California's last big earthquake was on January 22 when one reaching 5.25 on the Richter scale struck near the Monterey peninsula. Tuesday's was described as "a major earthquake".

The San Francisco earthquake of 1906, the seventy-eighth anniversary of which was observed just a week ago, was 8.3 on the Richter scale. The May 1983 Coalinga earthquake that virtually wiped out the California community of Coalinga registered 6.7.

## State fails to cow Solidarity lawyers

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw

Pressure is growing on the small, beleaguered band of lawyers who defend imprisoned human rights campaigners and solidarity activists in Poland. They are trying to frighten us, one lawyer says. "Just as they are trying to frighten the writers by arresting Mark Nowakowski" (the novelist).

One incident illustrates the point. Nowakowski's wife is the defence counsel for the veteran (though still young) dissident Adam Michnik. He and 10 other Solidarity leaders and advisers have been in Rakowicka Prison awaiting trial - the date of which has not been stated - on charges of trying to overthrow the state authorities. Mrs Nowakowski left the prison earlier this month after seeing her client and was promptly stopped by police who said they wanted to check the engine number of her car. She was then taken to a police station and strip-searched. The police were apparently looking for any notes from Mr Michnik.

An investigation has been started in the prison into leakage of information. How does the Western press know about the health of the 11 prisoners?

How does Mr Michnik manage to publish long articles in *Der Spiegel*? The defence lawyers are under suspicion. They can meet their clients only in special rooms and nobody doubts that the conversations are eavesdropped.

Each case against defence lawyers seems to tighten the

noose further. The defence counsel, Maciej Bednarkiewicz, was arrested on a number of charges including refusing to turn over a dossier from the Zomo riot police to the authorities. The dossier had come to him for advice and Mr Bednarkiewicz had respected the confidentiality of the meeting.

Mr Bednarkiewicz had been investigating the death of a schoolboy, Grzegorz Przemyski, who died after being in police custody - and a break-in, apparently by security police, into a church aid centre. Both were understandably sensitive affairs.

The dozen of human rights lawyers, Mr Wladyslaw Slanowski, protested in an open letter to General Jaruzelski and was promptly called to the Interior Ministry where he was told that he was being provisionally charged with "insulting the highest organs of state".

Another lawyer, Piotr Andrzejewski, who defended Solidarity activists striking at a nuclear research institute, has been suspended from practice. Defence counsel in the provinces have complained that their offices are searched and that suspicious characters, claiming unconsciously that they are underground activists, come into their offices wanting to be put in touch with other Solidarity fugitives.

There are now only six or seven specialist defence counsel for political prisoners in Warsaw, some 30 in the whole of Poland.

## Judge rejects writ to free Kenya detainees

A habeas corpus application for the release of four Kenyans, in detention since 1982, has been rejected by the Chief Justice, Mr Alfred Simpson, in the High Court here.

Counsel for the four submitted that their detention was illegal because details of their cases were not tabled in Parliament in 1982 and precise grounds were not supplied to the detainees.

The four are former MPs, Mr George Anyona and Mr Koigi Wamwere, and Nairobi University lecturers, Dr Edward Oyugi

and Mr Kamonji Wachira. They were detained early in 1982, several months before the attempted coup in August of that year.

Giving his ruling, the Chief Justice said the adjournment of Parliament soon after the detentions did not invalidate them, and the orders were not affected by any lack of detail in the statements supplied to the detainees.

The Attorney-General, Mr Mathew Muli, opposed the application on behalf of the state.

## Elton John to meet Walesa

From Roger Boyes

Warsaw

Elton John, the British rock star, plans to meet Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, during a brief concert tour in Poland this week, according to informed sources.

When exactly this unlikely spectacle will take place is still unclear. The British star, who recently featured in a much publicized wedding, will be flying with two private aircraft into Warsaw Pact territory in time for a concert on Friday night.

He was originally supposed, in his capacity as chairman of Watford Football Club, to kick off a football match between the British Embassy and Polish journalists, but the message has now reached Warsaw that he has an injury. This would open up a hole in his schedule for arranging a



Elton John, the British rock star, plans to meet Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, during a brief concert tour in Poland this week, according to informed sources.

## Iran 'will possess A-bomb by 1986'

Iran is making a nuclear bomb, which is likely to be ready within two years, according to *Jane's Defence Weekly*, the British defence magazine. It quoted unidentified press reports from the Gulf for the story.

"We checked out the reports with our sources, and they weren't knocked down," one of the editorial staff told Reuters.

A West German company had sent 40 experts to resume building the nuclear power plant at Boushabar, work on which was suspended after the 1979 revolution.

West German intelligence sources said production of a nuclear bomb "is entering its final stages".

## Wine war

Carcassonne (Reuters) - Five French winemakers were arrested suspected of destroying a huge hypermarket by petrol bombs last weekend. It was selling imported wines as well as regional product.

## Anthem lives

Sydney (Reuters) - Australian soldiers who fought with British forces in the First World War defied a government edict that "God Save the Queen" is no longer the national anthem and played it at memorial services yesterday to the Gallipoli landing of 1915.

## Paint bill

Los Angeles (AP) - Two photographers have filed damages claims against Prince Andrew for his impromptu spray paint job on the press last week. One wants \$1,200 the other \$600. The British Consulate is considering them.

## Group freed

Belgrade (Reuters) - All the 28 Yugoslav dissident intellectuals rounded up last Friday while listening to a lecture by Mr Milovan Djilas, the veteran civil rights campaigner, have now been freed, Mr Djilas said. All their flats were searched.

## Swiss pile

Leibstadt (AP) - The first test run was held at Switzerland's newest 1,000 megawatt nuclear power plant here with commercial operation scheduled to start in October. Two-fifths of the country's power will then be nuclear.

## Lesbians wed

Hamburg (AFP) - two lesbians had a white church wedding in Hamburg's Altona suburb over the Easter holiday, the first marriage of its kind in West Germany. The pastor faces disciplinary action.

## Jail ballad

Belgrade (AFP) - A 19-year-old Albanian singer substituted the word *schipieria* (the Albanian for Albania) for *shocheria* (society) at a recent concert in Yugoslavia's south-east Kosovo, heavily populated by Albanians. The song thus praised Albania and it earned him a 60-day jail sentence.

## Caviar catch

Sofia (AFP) - A team of Bulgarian fishermen landed five giant sturgeons weighing a total of 1,225lb. One was 363lb. The catch yielded 127lb of caviar.

## Beaches reopen

Glen Cove (Reuters) - The New York suburb of Glen Cove finally lifted its two-year ban on Soviet diplomats using its beaches, golf courses and tennis courts. In the long wrangle, the Justice Department intervened, the council was taken to court, and a new mayor was elected.

## Rare leopards

Krefeld (AFP) - Three snow leopards, a species near extinction, were born in the zoo here. Zoos round the world have put in requests for them.

## Take six

Memphis (AFP) - Rock and country musician Jerry Lee Lewis, aged 48, has married Kerrie McCarver, a 22-year-old Country and Western singer. It is his sixth marriage. The first three ended in divorce, the fourth wife drowned and the fifth died of a drug overdose.

## Sick economy forces Nyerere reshuffle

Nairobi (AFP) - President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, whose government is facing an economic crisis, has dismissed more than a third of his ministers. A new Cabinet of only 14 ministers, compared to 21 before the reshuffle, was due to be sworn in yesterday, according to Dar Es Salaam radio.

Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, the new Prime Minister, is a career diplomat aged 42. He had been Foreign Minister since November 1980 and replaces Edward Sokoine, who died in a road accident on April 12.

Mr Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the new Zanzibari President elected last week, has been named Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania, which celebrates its twentieth anniversary today. Both posts were held

by Mr Aboud Jumbe prior to his resignation on January 29.

The new Foreign Minister is Mr Benjamin Mkapa, aged 46, who previously held the post from 1977 to 1980 before becoming Information Minister.

The appointment of Mr Salim as Prime Minister makes him a likely candidate to succeed President Nyerere, who has led the country since independence in 1961 and has said he will not stand in next year's presidential elections.

Prime Minister Salim Ahmed Salim's Cabinet includes: Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa; Information Minister Salim Ahmed Salim; Agriculture and Livestock Development Minister John Nkomo; Labour and Manpower Development Minister David Mwakima; Health Minister Joseph Wavuta; Education Minister Joseph Wavuta; Justice Minister Joseph Wavuta; and Minister of State for Planning and Economic Development Joseph Wavuta.



Things go better with shells: A 245lb tortoise at El Paso Zoo, Texas, trying out the wheels that will get him around for the next two months while an injured forepaw heals.

## Iranian voters put Majlis Speaker well ahead

Tehran (AFP) - Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, came out well ahead in the Majlis (parliament) elections held here earlier this month, according to the results published on Tuesday. Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani won

1,801,458 votes, compared with 1,151,541 in 1980 but 2,221,880 in December, 1982, in the elections for the "Assembly of Experts", which will have the task of choosing a successor to Ayatollah Khomeini.

The 14 people who obtained a simple majority were all well

known and will automatically become members of the Parliament. Observers said it was too early to detect any strong political trends in the new Parliament.

The remaining 16 representatives for the capital will be chosen in a second round,

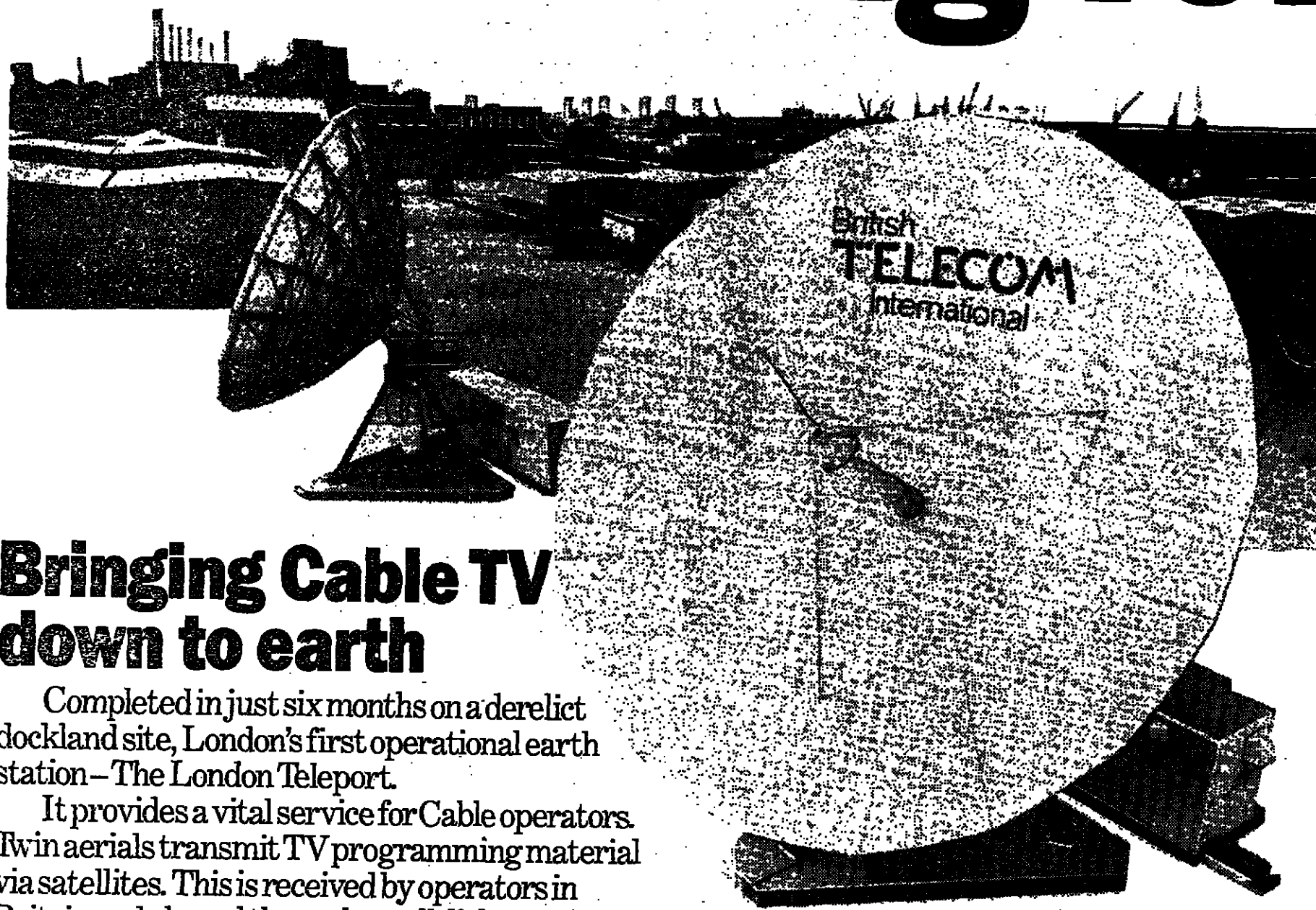
which Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Nategh Nouri, the Interior Minister, has indicated will take place before the end of May.

The turnout in Tehran was down on the last elections in December, 1982, from 2,677,844 to 2,202,665.



Iran will possess A-bomb by 1986

# Pressing forward



## Bringing Cable TV down to earth

Completed in just six months on a derelict dockland site, London's first operational earth station - The London Teleport.

It provides a vital service for Cable operators. Twin aeriels transmit TV programming material via satellites. This is received by operators in Britain and abroad through small dish aeriels on their premises.

Four more aeriels will provide City businesses with the advanced high-speed information services managers today find essential.



## How doctors get the picture-by phone

Specialists on call can now save vital time by viewing medical information - X-rays, brain scans and other graphic diagnostic aids - on their home TV sets.

A new system developed by British Telecom connects transmission equipment at a hospital with the doctor's home via the telephone network. Capital cost is not large, and the system operates for the price of a telephone call.

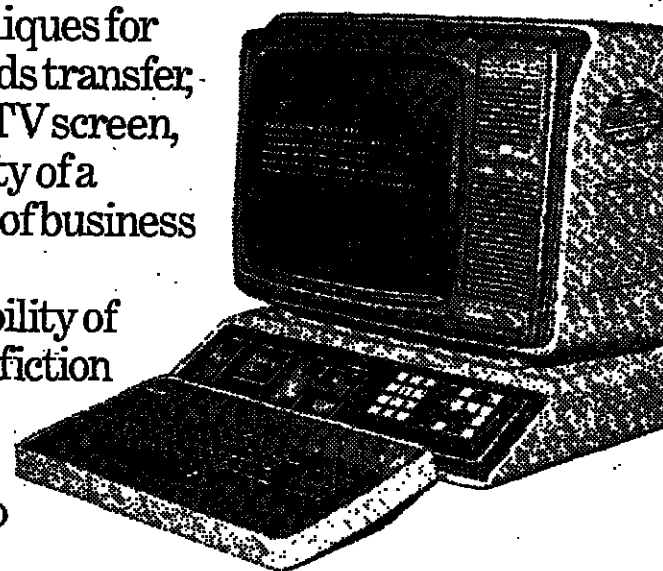
A pilot scheme is already in operation - with plans well advanced for extension to the rest of Britain, and then overseas.

A public service that could literally save lives: a new market for British Telecom.

## Taking stock - minute-by-minute

New equipment, new techniques for stock and credit control, for funds transfer, even for selling directly off the TV screen, give management the possibility of a minute-by-minute overview of business operations.

A key to the real-life viability of these seemingly science fiction developments is Packet SwitchStream (PSS), and KiloStream, just two



of British Telecom's growing range of digital services.

PSS and KiloStream provide fast, high quality data transmissions at the most economical cost.

They are already widely available in major business centres and they are rapidly expanding countrywide.

## Competing in a world growth market...

Trading contracts agreed with 60 countries.

Turnover growth from overseas business up 50% in past year.

Training expertise wins £8 million Middle East contract.

World's first intercontinental data transmission service operational.

Transworld Airlines choose British Telecom for international data transmission service.

## Wall Street - here we come!

"The Thundering Herd" buys British. Merrill Lynch Capital Markets, the world's largest stock-brokers, is replacing current equipment with our unique City Business System.

This provides international dealers with comprehensive telephone facilities, data retrieval, computer access and telex in one compact terminal. All controlled simply by touching the monitor screen itself.

The City Business System has already won orders worth over £16 million, with exports to four continents.



## NEXT:

Telex - plus.  
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Electronic mail  
- worldwide.  
And more.

British

**TELECOM**

The power behind the button.



# Power of the pen in exile

## The Times Profile Breyten Breytenbach

It was at the age of 36, the height of his literary acclaim, that South Africa's leading Afrikaans poet Breyten Breytenbach was imprisoned for seven years for clandestine activities against the apartheid system.

Recently released and now back in his Paris home with his wife Yolande, Breytenbach is still numbed by his prison experience and the shocks of re-entry into freedom. But he consented to talk about how he was caught, and how his fellow-Afrikaners treated him.

Relishing his return to the food and wine of France, he toasts the culinary contrast with South African prison food. "Spare diet in the punishment cell is a handful of dry gruel, so dry you have to mix it with toothpaste to get it down," he said, and confirms that food in South African prisons is still graded according to the race of the prisoner. "Even the condemned man's last meal is subject to apartheid. Before being hanged the white prisoner gets a whole roast chicken. The black prisoner gets half a chicken. Strangely enough, from the time they are condemned the blacks get the same food as the whites - except for that last meal. It's like a kind of reaffirmation of apartheid in the final moment before the gallows."

Breytenbach, now 43, is an unique thorn in the side of South Africa's governing Afrikaners, whose resentment of his dissidence conflicts with their respect for his artistic eminence.

Badly spoken, Afrikaans is an ugly language which rasps like sandpaper to the ear. Well spoken, it is one of the gems of the linguistic store, rich in vivid imagery and musical sounds. Political orators such as J. D. Basson make it sound like a cello, full of fruity tones and cadences, and its innovative modernity gives its newer words a special impact - an aircraft carrier is an *abbaskip* (piggyback ship) and a subway rail is a *moltrein* (mole train).

Breytenbach's contribution has been to push Afrikaans beyond its own confines, expanding its boundaries of poetic vocabulary and making it sing with a new confidence. In prison he wrote:

*In die middel van die nag  
kom die stemme van die  
wat binne enkele dae gehang sal  
word  
en in die klanke 'n dun benoudheid  
reeds*

*soos van stywe toue  
In the middle of the night  
come the voices of those  
who within mere days will be hanged  
and in the sounds is a thin anguish  
as of stretched ropes*

The translation is crudely inadequate to the beauty of the lines in Afrikaans, conveying only a hint of Breytenbach's poetic power.

How did this nationally acclaimed poet, his brother a general in the South African army and his background deeply rooted in the Afrikaner group consciousness, come to declare a private war on that group's innermost political values?

A descendant of an old Cape family - the Breytenbachs were among the early settlers of the seventeenth century - Breyten graduated from high school in the Afrikaner heartland of the western Cape Province, but deviated from the Afrikaner norm by eschewing the adademic shrine of Afrikaanderdom, Stellenbosch University, in favour of the English-language University of Cape Town. For him the first stirrings of art - painting and poetry - began at the age of 15, and he was impressed with the reputation of the fine arts faculty in Cape Town.

At the age of 20 he abandoned the course and set out for Europe, working for a time as a porter at Euston station before drifting into a variety of jobs in different parts of the Continent. But Paris was his cultural destination and he settled there in 1962, painting, writing and teaching English as he became fluent in French. There he met and married Yolande Ngo Thi Hoang Lien, born in Vietnam and raised in Paris, whose father was finance minister under Ngo Dinh Diem.

During the next two years he produced two volumes of poetry which earned him South Africa's top two literary prizes - but when he applied for a visa for his wife to accompany him to collect the awards she was refused entry to South Africa as a "non-white", and it was pointed out that Breytenbach could face arrest under the Immorality Act, which makes interracial marriage or sex a crime.

Breytenbach's response was to begin an involvement with anti-apartheid groups in exile. He ultimately joined with two other white South Africans, Barend Schutte and Don Morton, to plan an organization they proposed to call Okhela, as white anti-apartheid contribution to the cause of oppressed blacks. It was decided that Breytenbach should travel incognito to South Africa to contact known anti-apartheid whites and some black spokesmen, such as Steve Biko, with two aims. One



Breytenbach with Yolande, his Vietnamese-born wife. She was refused entry to South Africa when her husband was awarded literary prizes there.

was to channel money from European church groups to black trade unionists in South Africa, and the other was to "help develop a political infrastructure among anti-apartheid whites, to project to other whites inside South Africa the ideal of an alternative society free of racial barriers".

With the help of a French anti-apartheid organization, which supplied a false French passport in the name "Christian Galazka", Breytenbach shaved off his beard and flew from Rome to Johannesburg. But the French group must have been infiltrated, because from the time "Galazka" obtained his visa the South African security police had him under surveillance. They were later to claim that an air hostess aboard the plane was working on their behalf, and that they knew "Galazka" was Breytenbach all along, but subsequent events cast doubt on both claims, suggesting it was only after his arrest more than a week later that they discovered his true identity.

He was taken in shackles a thousand miles to prison where he spent the next five years



They shadowed him in Johannesburg and Cape Town, noting his contacts, before arresting him and charging him under the Terrorism Act. Initially Breytenbach was not unduly concerned, because he felt he had not done anything illegal in normal terms beyond using a false passport - hardly a major crime.

But he was to find that in South Africa normal terms do not apply to political activities. He was sentenced to nine years in prison for the intent with which he had entered the country, the court taking the view that trade union campaigns against apartheid constituted a threat to the safety of the state.

So it was in November 1975 that Breytenbach began his long period of solitary confinement among the condemned prisoners in Pretoria's maximum security section - a confinement which was to be interrupted only by three bizarre events.

One occurred when, after repeated petitioning by Afrikaner writers such as Andre Brink, he was allowed to see a new edition of his work. The prison authorities interpreted this literally - he was allowed to see the volume but not read it, their reasoning being that he was banned from reading unauthorized material even though it was material written by himself. Under the eyes of warders he was permitted to handle the book and flip over the pages cursorily before it was snatched back, lest he might dwell on any word within.

Another strange event was when he was removed from his cell one day by the senior security police officer, Colonel Broodryk, and taken to the latter's home. Broodryk, who admired

Breytenbach's writing, walked with him in the garden and introduced him to his two daughters, who asked for and received Breytenbach's autograph. Broodryk was later to allow Breytenbach to write a book of poetry in prison; a book which, without consulting the author, Broodryk caused the printers to dedicate to himself.

The most bizarre incident of all, however, began when a warden broke all the rules of the prison to whisper into Breytenbach's cell that he was a secret ally named Groenewald who wished to help Breytenbach escape, and was prepared to smuggle letters and messages to friends outside.

It was such a crude attempt to win his trust that Breytenbach made his responses sound absurdly naive or indistinct - guessing, correctly, that he was being tape-recorded by Groenewald. He played along accepting writing materials and sending out several letters to Yolande and others, hoping some might get through as part of the official campaign to win his trust, and verbally led Groenewald into ever wilder realms of subversive speculation about sabotage targets.

The result was a second trial under the Terrorism Act in June 1977, when he was formally accused of planning an escape, recruiting a warden for such a purpose, illegally sending letters from prison and plotting to blow up targets such as the Afrikaans Language Monument in Paarl. The state officials realized all too late that they had been sent up by their poetic prisoner, and shortly after the trial began the patent absurdity of the charges became embarrassing even to the state prosecutor.

The prosecutor had not bothered to listen to Groenewald's tapes, and had relied on transcripts supplied by the security police. When the recordings were played in court and heard to be nonsensical or indistinct, and to bear little relation to the "transcripts", however, Breytenbach was acquitted of all charges except that of smuggling letters out of prison, for which he was fined a nominal 50 rands.

He was taken in shackles a thousand miles, from Pretoria to Pollsmoor Prison near Cape Town, where he was to spend the next five years of his captivity until the end of 1982.

During this period, increasing diplomatic pressure was being brought to bear on Pretoria by the French government, pressure which became sharper with the accession to power in Paris of the Mitterand administration. When the South African government finally relented at the end of 1982 Breytenbach became one of 27 political prisoners, and the first white, to be released before full expiry of sentence in the first such commutation in 30 years.

Breytenbach says his remission of sentence from nine years to seven, to which the South African authorities attached no conditions beyond ascertaining that he would leave the country, was sudden and unaccompanied by any prior indications by officials. At first he could not believe it, and thought he was being taken to the superintendent's office to be told of punishment for some infraction of rules.

After a four-hour delay in his release, owing to the fact that no box could be found anywhere in the prison for his original clothes and belongings, he was allowed a brief visit to his father before flying to Johannesburg to return to Paris. Although his father had not spoken a word in years, following a stroke, he looked at Breyten and burst out with *Magtig!* (Wonderful!). It was the only word he could manage, and he repeated it several times as they shared a bottle of wine before Breyten's supervisor indicated it was time to go to the airport.

On the way to the airport he gained permission to run into the sea for a quick swim (emerging from the water he noticed a sign proclaiming that the beach was segregated), and he and his clothes were still wet from the swim when he arrived at the airport. He had forgotten about boarding procedures, and when an airline official reached for his parcel of manuscripts to put it through the security screen a tug-of-war ensued, until Breyten was assured that his separation from his manuscripts was only temporary.

In Johannesburg Yolande and the French Ambassador were waiting for him with a ceremonial bottle of champagne, and the Breytenbachs flew to Paris after seven and a half years of separation.

"I couldn't get used to things on the wall, like pictures and ornaments... walls looked cluttered after the bareness of the cells. I kept opening doors and leaving them open - the joy of an open door, to walk through whenever you like. Telephones were exotic things I had forgotten about, colours overwhelmed me, the bright colours of clothing, flowers, books... and the voices of children... I hadn't heard the voice of a child for seven years. To see the stars at night! And the moon! To ride in a car, and see other cars going by, travelling so fast... and not knowing the value of money, not knowing what things cost after seven years."

But for him the worst moments of imprisonment were waking up every morning. "After the freedom of dreams you open your eyes to the reality of the cell, and the realization that this is your reality for years and years to come." In time the reality became unreal, and he would hallucinate. He would be sure that Yolande was speaking to him, and would answer out loud. He also acquired an imaginary cell companion, Don Espejuelo, (Sir Mirror) a sardonic old Spaniard who criticized Breyten's poetry and scoffed at his views on painting, books, cinema and music.

He speaks of his separation from Yolande, but also of missing the prison life



"He is a *hardedat* (hard-assed) old chap, Don Espejuelo", says Breytenbach. "Always punching holes in my self-esteem, always arguing, but stimulating company in a place like that. After a long time in solitary confinement I also started getting visits from Dostoyevsky, which was terrific. I came to know him quite well, and to call him Feodor. In fact, I owe Feodor a poem, the poem referred to in Karamazov, about Christ returning to prison where he meets the Grand Inquisitor. One of the brothers Karamazov describes the poem but it's never written. That's the one I promised to write for Feodor."

He plans to write mostly in French and English. Is this a rejection of Afrikaans? "Not as a language, no. I'd never reject Afrikaans as a language, but I reject it as part of the Afrikaner political identity. I no longer consider myself an Afrikaner. Actually I prefer to consider myself a citizen of the world. I feel at home here in Paris. I'm a Parisian. But Afrikaans... I've long felt there was hope for it only if it were used in resistance to apartheid, but I think it is now too late. For blacks it is a denial of reality and a humiliation. Afrikaans as the youngest prince of the Germanic languages? The prince has been poisoned. What remains is a language for use on tombstones."

He speaks of the years of separation from Yolande, the pain of isolation and the early part of the strange sensation of missing some aspects of prison life: an occasional pang of homesickness for his cell, its certitudes and reassuring routines. "The other night I dreamt I had to go back, and my biggest worry was that I'd given away my spoon and plate and bit of soap. Would I be able to get them back?"

As writer and artist he counts it an advantage to have been imprisoned, and feels that his writing has been improved by the experience. His imprisonment has also helped him to square accounts with himself as part of what he regards as a necessary process for white South Africans opposed to apartheid - the need to pay an expiatory price for it.

Donald Woods

*Mouir: Mirrors of a novel by Breyten Breytenbach will be published by Faber and Faber at £8.50 on April 30.*  
© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Tribes at war in EC4

I have seen evidence of the most appalling bloodshed in Observerland (writes the editor of this column, Miles Kington).

During the course of an ordinary journey to Observerland, to have lunch, actually, I have seen scenes and heard reports which make it plain that heads are rolling, backs are being stabbed and blood is being spilt. Normally not a squeamish man, even though I was invited there on a courtesy visit. Lunch, as I think I have mentioned.

"Terrible things have been happening", a man called Donald told me, "and they are going to get even worse. Only last week a man came into my room and tried to give me the bullet. Luckily he missed, otherwise I would not be here today, if indeed I am here today, because from day to day I do not know if I am here or not."

Donald explained to me that the land is divided into two main tribes. He belonged to the more numerous one, the so-called N'uj, who do all the work and cultivate the wide rolling spaces of newsprint which dominate Observerland. Unfortunately, they are subservient to the Lounho tribe who, although much smaller in numbers, have all the money and firepower, and usually win when it comes to open strife.

Donald speaks with terror yet nobility of the man they call "Tiny", the leader of the Lounho tribe, who is legendarily supposed to eat underlings for breakfast, though whether this was a literal fact or merely a figure of speech I was not able to find out. But I was shown bloodstains and heard sounds of firing from the personnel department.

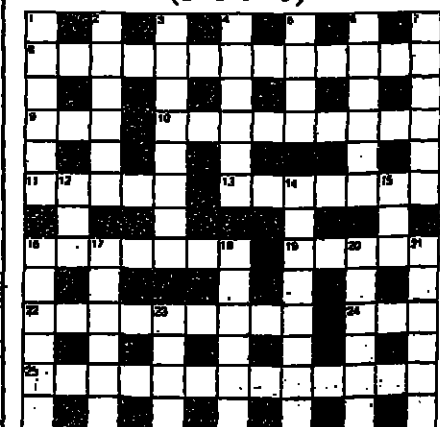
"These bloodstains come from the feet of my warriors", said Donald, whose other name I am sworn not to reveal. "Traditionally we have always travelled in our ancient transport known as black cabs, but the Lounho are now cutting off our money for this, and many have been forced to walk. No wonder their delicate skins cut and bleed."

The income of Observerland depends largely on the number of visitors they are able to attract every Sunday, and it is a matter of pride with Donald that this number has grown since he became chief of the N'uj. It is a matter of sorrow that "Tiny" denies the growth of these numbers, but Donald is confident that the young men of his tribe are 100 per cent behind him. His main fear is that "Tiny", tired of the conflict, may sell his homeland to the dreaded Pergamon tribe.

"Who knows what is happening?" says a tired Donald. "Perhaps I will be rescued by the ancient chiefs, the so-called independent directors. Perhaps I will not. Perhaps I will be forced to flee Observerland where I have lived for so many years and start a new life. Perhaps, O Kington, you will give me a small job in Moreoverland."

And perhaps not. But whatever happens, I pray that peace will come soon to this troubled place. The Sunday visitors to Observerland are not, perhaps, very interested in the tribal conflict - many of them come only to taste the cooking of the legendary Jane Grigson - but until this conflict is over, there can be no peace, not for Donald, nor for any of the N'uj, who only ask to be allowed to continue with their traditional rite of gathering after work at the watering-holes, as the expenses are cooked softly in the background.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 326)



- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS                          | DOWN                      |
| 8 Keen to satisfy (5,2,6)       | 1 Purified (6)            |
| 9 Brown skin (3)                | 2 Forming no angle (6)    |
| 10 Private conversation (4,1,4) | 3 Worrying (8)            |
| 11 Spiny desert plants (3)      | 4 Blue tit (6)            |
| 12 Treatment (7)                | 5 Pet parasite (4)        |
| 16 Joy (7)                      | 6 Photo-instrument (6)    |
| 19 Beginning (5)                | 7 Unorthodox doctrine (6) |
| 22 Under assumed name (9)       | 12 Grow old (3)           |
| 24 Cleopatra snake (7,3)        | 14 Profitable (8)         |
| 25 Christ's judge (7,6)         | 15 Baked pastry dish (3)  |
|                                 | 16 Mawkish (6)            |
|                                 | 17 Gap (6)                |
|                                 | 18 Yearning (6)           |
|                                 | 20 Sacred beetle (6)      |
|                                 | 21 Knocked lightly (6)    |
|                                 | 23 Grasp (4)              |

SOLUTION TO No 325  
ACROSS: 1 In toto 4 Hijack 7 File 8 Capybara 9 Mushroom 13 Con 16 Modus operandi 17 Toe 19 Sauserif 24 Eliciter 25 Gaga 26 Primed 27 Govern  
DOWN: 1 spy 2 Tolpuddle 3 Occur 4 Hippo 5 Jibe 6 Cargo 10 Husks 11 Orpin 12 Merg 13 Candidate 14 Nail 15 Smut 18 Oxter 20 Ahead 21 Slang 23 Fawn

We regret that a clue for 22 down in Crossword 325 was omitted in error.

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## BOOKS

## Hats, Daimlers and Hitler

The World We Left Behind  
By Robert Kee

(Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson, £11.95)

In June 1939 the King and Queen went to America, the first visit by a British sovereign. Vast crowds at the World's Fair in New York and elsewhere adored them. The Queen looked spectacularly pretty. The impact of the visit on the Americans from coast to coast was enormous. Even the virulently anti-British Col. McCormick's *Chicago Daily Tribune* succumbed, reduced to muttering subdued warnings under yards of pictures and stories, "the United States receives them cordially, if with mental reservations." New York's Mayor, La Guardia, told the King that "he had negotiated a treaty of friendship which would take many years to revoke." That visit did more than anything to put America on our side when the war began less than three months later.

At the beginning of the year H. G. Wells, discussing the coming visit in the *News Chronicle*, wrote, "These young people are, I believe, a very charming couple, constantly smiling and bowing but they mean absolutely nothing in the problems of today.... That visit is of very small importance in my horizon. What is of very great importance is the approach of daily Transatlantic air services."

On August 28, five days after the Nazi-Soviet pact was signed, Bernard Shaw had a letter in *The Times* about the "joyful news that Hitler is now under the thumb of Stalin whose interest in peace is overwhelming. And everyone, except myself, is frightened out of his or her wits. Why? The judgment of very clever people is not to be relied on in serious matters."

The judgment of the ordinary people is always better. They understood that the King and Queen had caught the emotions of the Americans and that it was these emotions which would count more than any politicians' meetings. All during 1939 the British knew the war was close despite Neville Chamberlain's pitiful searching for hope of peace in the ambiguous utterances of Hitler. Chamberlain could still think all was not lost after Hitler marched into Prague on March 15; and when Hitler marched into Poland early on Friday morning, September 1, Chamberlain delayed the military support pledged to Poland (which might have been some use if it had been immediate), dropping pleading leaflets, not bombing on Germany, until Sunday when it was altogether too late, believing that Hitler would yet find some device for relieving Chamberlain of the necessity to go to war.

Whatever historians deduce, and however much they excuse,

from their reading of unpublished documents and from the private motives of leaders, it is in the newspapers of the time that the broad truth appears. The irremovable daily facts are there. Robert Kee, as demonstrated by his history of Ireland, is an able historian. He has let the newspapers of 1939 tell the story of that fascinating year guided by his intelligent selection which gives a fair sample of the mood and behaviour of politicians editors and people.

The illustrations, all taken from the newspapers, are brilliantly chosen. How nice to see the basic sports salon, Daimler for £485, and the sketches of Paris spring hats in *The Times* looking far more attractive than those of 1984. Though the British knew better than their politicians that war was inevitable they wisely decided to enjoy themselves while they could. A thousand special trains at the August Bank Holiday weekend were laid on by the London Midland and Scottish Railway Company alone. Murder trials and sport got more attention than heavy political matters.

During the year there was a significant shift of attitude. The public had wanted to be deceived by Chamberlain's "peace with honour" at Munich in 1938, and he had their backing then. They were not mentally prepared for war. A public opinion poll published the day Hitler entered Prague showed what the public now thought had been meant by appeasement. Only 28 per cent approved of it as "a policy which would ultimately lead to enduring peace".

There was sympathy for Jewish refugees from Germany but it was not universal. The *Sunday Pictorial* in January had a headline "Refugees get Jobs - Britons get Dole", and in the story the unfeeling words, "European refugees are stealing jobs from Britons by the hundred every week". An editorial in *The Evening Standard* said, "It is not possible for the British government to allow immigrants to pour into this country. We can only allow harbourage here so long as provision is being made at the same time for refugees to move on elsewhere.... Yet the horrors inflicted on the Jews by Hitler were well reported."

Mr. Kee's recreation of the atmosphere of 1939 is authentic as I remember it. It is absorbing and worth any number of conventional histories. Franco's victory, Chamberlain's appeasing visit to Mussolini in Rome, the first betrayal of Czechoslovakia, Italy's invasion of Albania, and other notable events are vividly reconstructed from the contemporary view of them. All the trivialities which entertained people at the time are there too. Those who like their history accurate and comprehensive, but fun to read will enjoy this book.

Woodrow Wyatt

## Anatomy of an honourable error

The Pride and the Fall  
Iran 1974-1979By Anthony Parsons  
(Cape, £8.25)

Could and should Britain have done more to have prevented the overthrow of the Shah? This personal account from our Ambassador in Teheran from 1974-79 provides fascinating insights towards answering that question. Yet strict observance of the Official Secrets Act and the 30 year rule means that we are only given a partial glimpse of what was over a number of years, but particularly in 1978, one of the most intense periods of international diplomacy.

Anthony Parsons, though being a party to and fully involved in much of these discussions, had to exclude this area of diplomacy. In consequence there is too much "mea culpa" as though to compensate for the criticism that his on the spot assessment proved in the event to be wrong. He takes too much blame on his own shoulders and this gives the impression that his personal judgment was the dominating factor. In reality there were many other judgments, many other inputs. Well before the crisis the correct questions were constantly posed by the British Embassy in Teheran, "Has the Emperor any clothes?" was but one. The fact that on balance he came to the view that the Shah could survive was not an

David Owen examines the overthrow of the Shah

indication of his professional expertise. This is worth stressing because some of the greatest public servants have been associated with mistaken judgments and yet have still retained the confidence and the respect of the politicians who they advised. Anthony Parsons was brought back in January 1979 from Teheran to London on promotion to a specially created Third Permanent Under Secretary job in the Foreign Office. The intention was to let him obtain invaluable experience of up to the minute service in Whitehall so that he would be ready should whoever was the Foreign Secretary after the election wish to send him either as Ambassador in Washington or to the United Nations. The worst public servants are those who never risk a judgement, who always hedge their bets. The best and Anthony Parsons was amongst the very best, posing the right questions but are also ready to giving the wrong answers. It is a tribute to his professional skills that he was able to command the affection and regard of people as diverse as myself, Lord Carrington and Mrs Thatcher.

The trendy Left in Britain in 1978 pretended that the fall of the Shah would improve the lot of the average Iranian and not have damaging effects on British interest or on inter-

national security. Subsequent events have tragically proved how wrong those sentiments were. The abuse of human rights that existed under the Shah's regime proved to be much less than what followed in the wake of the revolution. The Iran-Iraq war is but one of the tragic consequences of the regional insecurity that manifested itself as soon as the Shah's grip on the region was lost.

On the reasons for the Shah's fall, this account gives too little weight to the inflationary pressure that began to feed through the Iranian economy acting as a focus for discontent amongst the middle class professionals, as well as within the bazaar. Also, insufficient stress is given to the shattering effect over the last few months of the Shah of the strikes in the oil fields and the total inability of the armed forces to keep oil production up. It is amazing in retrospect that the Shah did not anticipate this potential weakness.

Assessing the critical days in the Summer of 1978, one is bound to ask whether we and the United States should not have put much more pressure on the Shah to abdicate and to leave Iran. We had already concluded that at best he could only hold to survive as a constitutional monarch. We

had insufficient knowledge about his state of health. We underestimated his capacity to vacillate and we attached too much importance to the need for him to be physically present in Iran in order to hold the armed forces together. In retrospect we should have given him a much firmer steer that he should leave and appoint his son as successor with an interim regency. This might have taken away the emotive focus for discontent around which public opinion in Iran could combine. There was little else that bound together the disparate groupings that coalesced to topple the Shah over the head of the man. The fault for any mistakes in our overall diplomacy at this time does not lie with our Ambassador in Teheran.

Inevitably an Ambassador's personal contact and involvement with individuals clouds their judgment. One does not expect from an Ambassador's reports total objectivity for their task is to try to put themselves in the position of the government and the ruler, whose actions they have to interpret back to their own country. The intimacy of Anthony Parsons' relationships with the Shah and the former Prime Minister Hovseyda brought great benefits to Britain over a number of years. If criticisms are to be made about what was said through the British and US Ambassadors to the Shah in the last few critical months, they should be directed at us politicians.

## The cost of pearls and caviar

Hilaire Belloc  
By A. N. Wilson

(Hamish Hamilton, £12.95)

A. N. Wilson describes Hilaire Belloc as a dirty, noisy figure, "an opinionated supertramp". A contemporary, Gertrude Atherton, was constantly expecting Belloc's mind to "explode and burst through his skull.... such a flow of words I have never listened to." He was not too worried about personal appearance, always wearing mourning after his wife's death in 1914. Anyone who did not mistake him for an undertaker would "very naturally think of him as a priest". In later life he turned up at his agent's dressed typically in a "well-filled black frock suit, dripping with soap, dandruff, grease and fishbones, and bulging at the pockets with newspapers and a bottle of white port".

He was an eccentric genius. He once declared that writing history was a matter of flair, not of facts. Certainly Belloc had flair. History itself has judged him of little worth since he either misheard or ignored its facts. Wilson, too, has flair, and with a better balanced attitude towards anecdotes and substantiated facts, has brought Belloc, the rear half of Shaw's monstrous Chesterbelloc beast, to vigorous life in the biography.



Wilson (left) and Belloc: much in common



Wilson and Belloc have much in common. Belloc was a prodigious writer of greater energy and output: so is Wilson. When Belloc died in old age, he was the author of more than 150 books; today, at a much more tender age, Wilson has already published ten. It is a bonus when amusing subject and amusing author coincide. This fortunate conjunction has occurred with Wilson writing with poise and pace on Belloc.

Out of a minor star Wilson had made a comet. Beyond those deservedly famous, witty cautionary verses, Belloc's reputation has not survived. His views were unpopular; he was Roman Catholic of the continental tradition, anti-Jew, and a trenchant critic of Parliament despite sitting as a MP for South Salford. And in his craft, although a prolific writer, he was careless. Many books were dictated, and though full of

inspired passages, were patchy and repetitive; perhaps they should be declaimed. His book on Milton - interestingly Wilson's last biography was of Milton - was dictated over the space of ten days in his study at Kingsland, his Sussex home. Wilson remarks: "He is out of fashion, out of print, in most cases out of mind, not because of the quality of his literary output, but, very largely, because of the nature of his political and religious beliefs". He later trims this view. It is precisely the unevenness of Belloc's work which confines him to the lower Parnassian slopes.

At least their two reputations last: Belloc's does not. He wrote too much, as he said himself, because his children were always "howling for pearls and caviar". Behind all the exuberance he was a melancholy man. Elodie, his Californian wife, confided, "I love you for your sad face". She and two sons predeceased him: no wonder that in his heart he was not "right as a Ribstone Pippin". He would have been even more disconsolate if he had known that fifty years on the wish expressed in *On his Books* was sadly futile and unfulfilled: "When I am dead, I hope it may be said: 'His sins were scarier; but his books were read.'"

Brian Martin

## Azur, gules, vert, sable, purpur and turnips rampant

Chivalry  
By Maurice Keen

(Yale, £12.95)

"May God raise me to that honour, that I may hold her, in whom dwell all my heart and thought, naked in my arms once before I cross the sea to Outremer".

This, the most haunting of all Maurice Keen's quotations was the eve-of-crucade prayer of Guy, the chatelein of Coucy, with its sharp clear evocation of once-rare passions, its strange and robust mix of sacredness and secularism, and its touch of melancholy (Outremer far country), it says much about the mood of this remarkably good book.

The theme of Maurice Keen, in his history of chivalry in chivalry's true period, from the early 12th to the early 16th century, is that chivalry in fact was more secular, less Christian in its origins and ambience than historians have imagined. He traces this back to the new cavalry tactics of the mid-11th century whereby, on field of battle, the knights had become a rather separate and a superior group, and to the even earlier invention of the stirrup which gave mounted warriors (shades of Monty Python), amongst other great advantages, the power of unhorsing. Maurice Keen sets out to unravel and assess in correct relation to each other the main components martial, aristocratic and, inevi-

tably though by no means overwhelmingly, Christian - of the infectious powerful chivalric ideal. He is never less than interesting, often most compelling, in his depiction of, for instance, the Crusades as the greatest of all chivalrous adventures.

The culture of chivalry was a very visual one. The colours of the robing: white and scarlet, dark brown stockings (to remind the knight of earth and so mortality), the white belt of chastity, gold heroic spurs. The "tinctures" of heraldry: azur, gules, vert, sable, purpur, arranged in combinations by which one could recognize the owner in battle, early examples of functional design. The dazzling virile colours of

the tournament which remind one of Mark Girouard's suggestion in *The Return to Camelot*, his study of the re-rise of chivalry in England in the nineteenth century, of the chivalric influence on the football jerseys worn at Rugby School. Maurice, with immense enthusiasm, at his best at describing pageants, feasts and tournaments, the bright and boastful scenes of knightly disputation, the atmosphere he so alluringly depicts as "the unthinking gaiety of idle hours". But he never loses touch with the necessities behind the cult of chivalry, the urge for this elite aristocratic martial group to create themselves a powerful position in society and having

achieved that position, to maintain it.

And so the benevolent smiles of the great lady, familiar from the troubadours' beseeching lyrics, had more than simply sexual significance; they were the lower passage, for the poor knight who had begged them, into a world of relative security, social and financial, in her husband's household. The heralds emerge not just as interested amateurs, pedantic and eccentric sort of Lewis Carroll characters, able to distinguish for example why Ot den Rand bears on his sable shield a humble turnip, but as necessary adjuncts to professional chivalry, establishing traditions, propping up the status quo. Even an apparently

mad picturesque convention like the swearing on the bird - a swan, say, or a heron - before setting out to battle turns out on close inspection to be not a sudden inspirational impulse but public relations on a regal scale.

Disillusioning? Well slightly. But it is this separation of the real from romance, the fact from fabric, which is Maurice Keen's whole point, giving great authority and a worldly-wise amusement to a book which is scholarly, original, beguiling, and which should be read ideally in conjunction with David Lodge's shimmering chivalric academic new comedy, *Small World*.

Fiona MacCarthy

Tim Heald reviews new thrillers

## G and T when the sherry fails

The Need to Know  
By William Haggard

(Hodder &amp; Stoughton, £8.95)

Some idiot once sent a letter bomb to Colonel Charles Russell, retired head of the Security Executive. He was out playing golf and it wasn't much of a bomb but it "frightened his housekeeper out of her skin and burnt a large hole in a fine Shiraz rug". The Colonel's reaction is entirely characteristic: disdainful, laconic, and cool as the gin and tonic he'll accept when his hostess can't produce "drinkable sherry".

When a ghastly American psychopath says something about being a soldier, Russell remarks crisply, "You wouldn't last long in a British regiment." The Colonel is supposed to be enduring a civilized retirement, but this is rudely interrupted when an old friend falls off his chaise-longue after lunch at the club. Rather dead, which becomes tiresome as he had once been a mate of de Gaulle's, privy to some interesting secrets which one or two people think he may have passed on to the Colonel. Suddenly Colonel Russell finds himself a pawn in the Super Power game though despite the appalling things that happen the upper lip scarcely quivers.

The Colonel is a touch reactionary for some tastes (he

much approves of a friend's conviction that "the liberal-minded were congenitally ineffective"), but this only adds conviction to his character. His creator is in his seventies now but remains as stylishly sardonic as the Colonel. Both give the impression of being much younger than their years, fighting fit and more than able to give the opposition a run for their money.

The Aquitaine Progression, by Robert Ludlum (*Granada*, £8.95). It was when one of the characters is told, "You'll be met in Manchester by a man with red hair", that my patience finally gave out. It was page 616 after all but still old Ludlum was chuntering on about airline timezones and the Swissair from Geneva being thirty-four minutes early, just like a latter day Freeman Wills Croft rehearsing Bradshaw. And he will keep using "careen". Cars "careen" into walls, revolver butts "careen" into jaws, and he has a red hot Vietnam veteran careening about Europe on a mission to save the world, and the man can't speak a word of anything but English. He may be top of the best seller list but what he needs is a good tart-tongued interrogation from an English-speaking editor with a cackling 200 pages Mr

Ludlum; we have ways of making you talk."

Mandrake in Granada, by John Haythorne (*Ross Anderson*, £6.50). A little frivolity is a welcome relief in this overly puffed genre and they don't come much more frivolous than this pseudonymous romp alleged to be by a "high-ranking British diplomat". Is there a clue to the author's identity in the fact that the alarming Lady Ursula has a butler named Parsons? A very slight, very silly, very short volume which feels as if it was scribbled after the sun has gone over the yard arm by our man in a hammock somewhere tropical. But not without a gentle charm.

Monopoly, by Jonathan Evans (*Michael Joseph*, £8.95). "I made a count", he said. "I'd say five per cent of the women are wives, the rest mistresses" are wives, the rest mistresses. This seems to be the key to this everyday story of international banking folk. The premise is that bankers are amazingly glamorous and sexually insatiable; also that if Russian bankers behaved like Western bankers we could be in for a lot of trouble. Maybe so, but this particular version carries about as much conviction as a stock market report by Fiona Richmond.

Tim Heald



Burroughs: plunging in the vertigos

Fiction

## Prairie oyster

Opus Pistorum  
By Henry Miller

(W. H. Allen, £9.95)

The Place of Dead Roads  
By William S. Burroughs

(John Calder, £9.95)

Coals may have been brought to Newcastle, refrigerators sold to Esquimaux, sand scattered in Arabia, but *Opus Pistorum* achieves more. It is pornography written by Henry Miller. Penniless in Hollywood during the Second World War, Miller was paid a dollar a page for his lubricious effusions by a local bookseller, who catered in censored material to some leading film producers and directors. Miller obliged and the result is *Opus Pistorum*, Latin for the Work of a Grinder or Miller. It is more like the work of a dollar-a-trick literary whore. Despite praise from William S. Burroughs and Terry Southern, who term these pages audacious and a spring whiff of the 1920s, *Opus Pistorum* makes the notorious Miller books about the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn seem as steady as the *Pilgrim's Progress*. If you want an American in Paris in the obscene mode, punctuated with dots in the manner of a Céline novel, this is your prairie oyster.

Burroughs himself has emerged from playing with his handbags in his mid-Western bunker to write *The Place of Dead Roads*. It is a surreal time-trip through the cowboy myths of the American West, riddled with obsessions about revolvers, shooting, the male body, death and Egyptology. It is too personal a novel to

communicate more than the private world of a writer, whose gifts have always been greater than his capacity to organize them. Even the French Romantic poets aimed at fixing the vertigos. Burroughs plunges within them.

Hix Nix Stix Pix by David Llewellyn Burdett (*Cape*, £8.95) might well be another American hit-and-miss Hollywood novel written in the slang of the headlines of *Variety*, the trade paper. In fact, it is a witty and engaging run through the studio years from the First World War to the Second, an artful blend of political facts and the screen career of a star named Inshroom. Usually the mixture of history and romance confuses without entertaining, but in this case, as in E. L. Doctorow's *Ragtime*, the invention and resurrection of time past leads to an intriguing first novel from David Llewellyn Burdett.

The Hawthorne Goddess by Glyn Hughes (*Chatto & Windus*, £8.95) is a magical novel, quirky and earthy, about Yorkshire history during the period of the Industrial Revolution. The heroine, Anne Wyld, represents the doom of nature and the land. She suffers from the dominance of Reason and Profit, and even superstition, although she herself is half-mythological, a creature born of the ancient folk ways. Glyn Hughes has an arresting style, both rich and abrupt, mannered with sudden inspirations.

He intends a trilogy about Anne Wyld with her reappearing to live through the social history of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. If he does not labour his old beliefs and correspondences, he might achieve a moving and singular body of work in the end.

Andrew Sinclair

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Here's the Gen

Jain Sproat's secret is out. The airline to which the former Aviation Minister has just been appointed chairman - and which he refused to identify - was disclosed by an anonymous caller yesterday. It is Genair, the Humberside regional carrier and commuter link for B-Cal and British Airways. Denis Allen, a Genair director, tells me Sproat takes up his job next week. This was news to Rothschild's, where Sproat is a consultant. They did not know he was planning to move.

On Genair's past form Sproat cannot expect an easy ride. The company is now suing its former managing director, Brian Huxford, and Humberside fraud squad is meanwhile investigating a Genair complaint relating to its takeover of Eastern Airlines in 1982. Allen refused to discuss the airline's application to the CAA to fly to Europe's "third category" airports. "We can't let our competitors know that," he said. I thought Sproat was a free-for-all man.

There's no hoover like an old hoover. When the Rotmans and Huxford musical *On Your Toes* starring Natalia Makarova, opens in London next month, George Abbott, its director, will be 96.

## On the cards

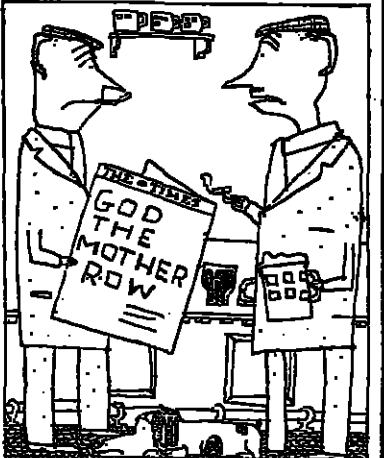
As fears grow that breaches of confidentiality will result from the controversial Data Protection Bill, John Patten, Health and Social Security Under-Secretary, could perhaps learn of the danger from his wife Louise.

Mrs Patten, marketing director of Petroleum Charge Card and Retail Credit Card, made a gaffe when monitoring the credit-worthiness of a potential customer on her computer while he was in her office the other day. "It was most embarrassing," says Mrs Patten, in an interview in *Harpers and Queen*. "His name popped up - OK, his wife's popped up - and there was a string of debts - raincoats from Burberry's and so on. He didn't know about it, and was furious. Now we run a discreet check first."

## Weeded out

The Arts Council's *The Glory of the Garden* concludes that "The British garden of the arts has great beauties... but there are empty beds and neglected shrubberies." Heading the list of drama companies axed by the Council is the Horseshoe Theatre Company, whose address is The Shrubbery, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke. The company is now considering a proposal to change the name of its building to The Neglected Shrubbery.

BARRY FANTONI



"Well, it's certainly the case in our house"

## Home and dome

So much for Buckingham Palace: the Duke of Edinburgh has picked the Kremlin as one of his 10 favourite buildings. He was taking part in an *Illustrated London News* survey of the personal hot parades of 58 worthies interested in architecture. The building to get most mentions is much nearer home: Durham Cathedral.

## Doing the rounds

Could Simon Jenkins have got the Whitehall mandarins worried with his recent Radio 4 series about the state of the Foreign Office? Transcripts of all his *With Respect* Ambassador broadcasts are being dispatched to every major British embassy.

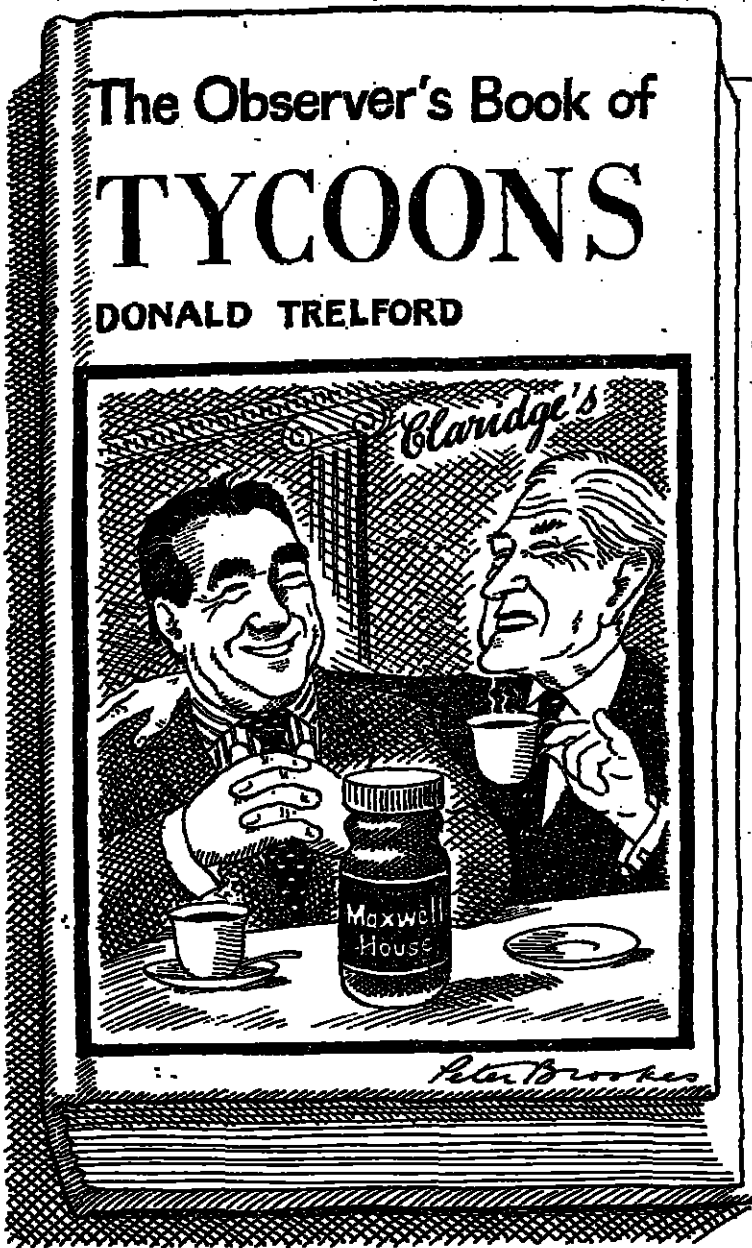
## Defenestration

Sir Terence Conran chastised me for "aiding and abetting the Thirties Society by reporting their indignation at his plans to rip out the unusual curved windows from Heal's. Yesterday Camden's planning department refused him permission to carry out this act of vandalism. (The Habitat/Mother-care king wanted to install flat ones, similar to the ones *in situ* in 1916, so that his wares could be seen more clearly). Scarcely had I put down the phone when an invitation arrived asking me to Conran's opening of the revamped Heal's next month. Strange. It bore a drawing of the building complete with his proposed flat windows. Presumptuous? No, they said, artistic licence. Meanwhile the Thirties Society is wondering whether the battle has cost them a casualty. Stephen Bayley, a founder member, has resigned for "one reason and another". He is, of course, director of the Boilerhouse gallery at the Victoria & Albert Museum, of which Sir Terence Conran is a trustee.

PHS

Alan Hamilton looks at the small print in the Observer wrangle

# Is it all just a Tiny ruse?



round to the Lorrho headquarters in Cheshire, and won much of what they were after from the hand of Rowland himself.

Many of the paper's 70 full-time journalists are also dismayed at instances of what they see as proprietorial interference, notably the demolition of the paper's business editor, William Keegan, from a regular weekly front-page column to the depths of the interior, which they claim was a Rowland-inspired order over the head of the editor. Rowland's curious appointment of an African employee of Lorrho to be the paper's African editor also generated a fair measure of wrath.

There is also dismay in some quarters that Lorrho is not investing enough money in the newspaper, which is currently losing an estimated £1m a year, and which in addition has had to bear a £150,000 loss from its recent sponsorship of the Prince Albert exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Such a loss would be regarded as mere peanuts - indeed almost a profit - in some Fleet Street publishing houses. But *The Observer* is a small-scale operation. Its total full-time staff, including management, journalists, compositors, and all other departments, is barely 500, augmented by a casual labour force of 400 part-time journalists, printers and publishing room staff on Saturdays.

Its real problem is overheads. Its two rivals, *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, are associated with daily papers which keep their presses occupied during the week. But *The Observer's* press room which printed *The Times* until 1974, is idle for six days out of seven.

Were Maxwell to gain control, he could be expected to occupy those vast expensive machines with a new London evening newspaper, the capital, which until 1960 had three evening titles, is down to one.

*The Standard*, which even in its monopoly position makes a substantial loss. Lorrho has investigated just such a possibility, but came to the conclusion that it would lose them even more money.

Now the economic climate may be a little better, and Mr Clive Thornton, the new head of Mirror Group Newspapers, has been airing the possibility of an *Evening Mirror* printed on the *Daily Mirror's* machines.

The crucial question, however, is whether Rowland really wants to sell, or whether the public shouting match with Trelford over his Zimbabwe atrocities story is simply part of a plot to have a new and more successful editor. Trelford, irrespective of whether or not he is a good editor, is a strong believer in his own independence.

*The Observer* is very much Rowland's personal possession, and a number of his colleagues on the Lorrho board think it quite illogical that a mining and trading company should own a newspaper at all, especially a loss-making one. Last year the chairman let it be known that he would like to be rid of it, but he was overruled by the paper's board, and by the main minority shareholder, its previous owner, Robert O. Anderson, of Atlantic-Richfield Oil.

Over another breakfast table in another place, Anderson is said to have told Rowland that, if he sold, he would be ostracized not only by the British financial establishment but by the American as well. "You may think you're big, Tiny, but I'm bigger," Anderson announced in a line that could have come straight from the script of *Dallas*.

Rowland's apparent disenchantment springs, not so much from *The Observer*, but from the fact that Lorrho is almost universally shunned by the major City financial institutions, and their view is likely to be reinforced in the impending Department of Trade report on the House of Fraser share deal, which City sources say will be highly critical of Lorrho.

Whether Maxwell would be any more acceptable as a proprietor is open to question; he is no friend of the print unions, although some *Observer* managers would welcome him for that very reason. Journalists are suspicious of him, because they assume he would be an interfering proprietor. If the paper really is for sale, Maxwell will almost certainly find himself in competition with the Fairfax newspaper group of Australia, which continues to express a behind-the-scenes interest in Britain's oldest national Sunday paper.

Maxwell, whatever his other failings, is a man of great bravery who was awarded the MC by Montgomery in 1945 for "leading his men in a counter-attack across bullet-swept ground with great dash and determination." In trying to buy the *Observer* he will at last find himself on familiar ground.

Ask Hansa Obied why she threw stones and she replies: "Because the soldiers had come to take our men, they had come to fight Islam. We have been taught in school and in the mosque to fight the Israelis. They are our enemy, and it is our duty to confront them. The Israelis are scared. They are afraid of stones."

There is no doubt that her mother has had something to do with this attitude. "I was in front of my daughters, with as many stones as I could defend myself with," she says. "Our faith is our weapon. If my daughters have to die for Islam, so be it."

Others died that day, though hardly for Islam. The villagers describe how Sobhih Ali Akhtar, a mother of 10 children, was killed when she ran into the street from her home holding her skirt full of onions. The villagers believe that onions smeared on the eyes and nose prevents the effects of tear gas. According to eye witnesses, one of the militiamen thought Sobhih Akhtar was holding a bomb, so he shot her in the head.

Haj Hassan Harb was also killed: he was an uncle of the previous Shaikh of Jibchit, Ragheb Harb, a fanatical prelate who dealt in used cars and anti-Jewish oratory. Ragheb Harb was murdered in February - by pro-Israeli militiamen, the villagers believe.

The Israelis still insist they never entered the village on March 28. But several witnesses say that an Israeli officer identifying himself as Captain Zeid told them to hand over any weapons in their homes and that the soldiers searching their houses spoke in Hebrew, not Arabic. Certainly, the helicopters must have been Israeli. So too were the soldiers who interrogated up to 300 male villagers at a local school.

Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the "South Lebanon Army", admits that his militia were involved but says the first shots were fired by villagers. "We discovered a quantity of arms and explosives. We shot back at the resistance," he says. "There was shooting from all directions. Who knows?"

Both Lahd and the Israelis suspect that Jibchit is a centre of anti-Israeli guerrilla activity in southern Lebanon. The villagers, when pressed, agree that about 12 men wanted by the Israelis fled their homes when the soldiers entered the village on March 28. Yet the only specific evidence of an arms find - and it comes from the villagers, not Lahd - was the discovery of four rifles, two of which had been buried in gardens by deserting members of Israel's own Lebanese militia.

"The Israelis claim that anyone who says 'Allah Akbar' (God is great) is a terrorist," says Hassan Fahas. "We should do whatever we can to resist them..." Khadija Atwi's grave lies beside those of Sobhih Akhtar and Haj Hassan Harb and Ragheb Harb. As things go, they are likely to have more companions soon.



Occupiers and occupied: both are contaminated

lights and Israeli helicopters near us. I went to the balcony, and that is when I was shot. I did not see who fired. I turned away and the bullet hit me in the back of the elbow."

Mohamed Atwi and his two sisters Khadija and Fatma, heard the sound of the shooting at dawn. Mohamed Atwi says that when he left the family's house, he saw Israeli troops in the street.

"We had stones and threw them at the soldiers. They started shooting. Khadija was shot in front of me. I bent to pick her up and then I was shot. They shot Fatma in the stomach and the bullet came out of her back."

Fatma survived but is still in hospital in Sidon. "An Israeli doctor came to treat me when I was taken out of the village," Mohamed Atwi continues. "The same Israeli doctor came to treat Khadija but she yelled at him, saying, 'You shoot at us and then you want to treat us.'"

"She was still conscious. There was a checkpoint outside the village manned by militiamen and Israeli

soldiers. The checkpoint would not allow the wounded to leave the village. They kept me lying on the ground for four hours. Khadija bled until three in the afternoon. Then she died."

Hana Obied was one of the luckier ones. She is 16 and lies in bed in a white gown and scarf, a small girl whose delicate features contrast oddly with her words. A cloth covers her neck. "When the Israelis came to the village, I went up to the mosque," she says. "I collected some stones on the way to throw at them. When I threw the first stones at the Israelis, a soldier fired between my feet. I ran down the road to the square. I stood in front of an Israeli vehicle and threw stones at the soldiers in it."

Ronald Butt

# With friends like Scargill...

Mr Arthur Scargill is a ruthless politician who wishes to revolutionize society and assist the birth of a socialist state. To this end he seeks to prove (using the strong arm of the miners' sectional interests) that the kind of politics for which the electorate twice voted when they sent Mrs Thatcher to Downing Street (and transferred so many ex-Labour votes to the Social Democrats) will not work.

He needs to establish that it is possible to break the Government's so far successful policy of laying down clear limits to the supply of public money to nationalized industries, and then letting their management run them without government intervention by subsidizing pay claims or uneconomic production.

Any hope he has of success must depend on whether other unions could be persuaded to challenge public opinion by making common cause with the miners' union. If the strike were to spread, the industrially tranquil life which has been one of the most valued by-products of the Thatcher period would at least temporarily be threatened and that, of course, involves some risk to the Government.

Yet the risk to Mr Kinnoch and his colleagues is much greater since, in the end, this conflict may force them either to reveal more explicitly the kind of society they want (including the relative priority they give to socialism and democracy) or, more probably, to be seen as obviously avoiding doing so as to destroy their own credibility. For generations, the Labour Party has been a house divided but has more or less managed to avoid facing the truth about itself, and the question is only how much longer it can do so.

Put simply, the fundamental issue is whether we are to live in a free economy and society, with the government providing the (non-inflationary) conditions in which personal and commercial freedom can produce the wealth needed to pay for a sufficient standard of welfare for all - or whether it is to be a socialized state in which jobs are preserved by bureaucratic fiat, even when there is no economic market for what they produce; in which demand is engineered by borrowing of a kind that can lead only to inflation and the destruction of real value; in which private decisions are subordinated to bureaucratic.

In the past, Labour has paid reverence to socialism for rhetorical purposes, but its leaders in office have in practice retreated from it. They have done so, first, because faced with the reality as distinct from the theory, and looking at socialism where it operates, they have recoiled from its consequences. Secondly, they know that, given a free choice, the people will not vote for it. Labour leaders have employed the rhetoric which they deemed necessary to control the leviathan party machine they need to carry

them to power, but in practice they try to preserve a mixed society. That is why Ramsay MacDonald, those capitalist rather than socialist measures, or resignation, to resolve the economic crisis facing him; it is why Attlee (after creating a welfare state broadly acceptable to most political opinion in its principles, if not all its details, and nationalizing some declining industries, settled for a mixed economy).

It is why Gaitskell fought to expunge the commitment to total socialism from the party's constitution and why Harold Wilson fought to turn Labour into (*de facto*) a social democratic party.

The inexorable advance of the left has now brought to the leadership a recent man of the legitimate left, Mr Neil Kinnoch, who can welcome neither Mr Scargill's ends nor his chosen means. The only escape Mr Kinnoch and his colleagues have from their dilemma is to accuse Mrs Thatcher of smashing the old consensus; of bringing in hard-faced Thatcherism which precipitated hard-earned Scargillism. That is not the case.

Thatcherism came into existence because the "Scargillites" of the Sixties and Seventies gradually broke the consensus for which Gaitskell, George Brown and Wilson (in their different ways) had striven. It was the unions' "Scargillism" that destroyed the idea of a voluntarily planned economy and pay structure; that destroyed Wilson's attempt to capture and keep what was called the centre ground of politics.

The final triumph of Seventies' Scargillism (it was usually called Bennism at the time) was the revolution in the Labour Party's constitution, the abolition of the list of extremist organizations, the abolition of the Labour Party's constitution, the abolition of the list of extremist organizations, the abolition of the Labour Party's constitution, the abolition of the list of extremist organizations.

What alternative was then left except to try to make capitalism and a free society work in their own terms (while preserving the basic guarantees of the welfare state), which is what Thatcherism amounts to? There was that, or there was the revolutionary socialism which was the aim of the Bennites and the Militants and is now the purpose of Mr Scargill's speech. In practice, the office Labour Party could offer no convincing alternative of its own, which is why the Social Democrats have tried to create a party that could operate as an alternative to the Tories within a national consensus of basic principles, as the old Labour Party did. How can it be seriously suggested that this government could have gone down the Heath-Callaghan road to disaster?

Whoever, or whatever party, it was which destroyed the consensus, that Mr Kinnoch and his friends now bewail, it was certainly not Mrs Thatcher.

Russell Baker

# Kick the habit, not the addict

Although pathetically addicted to cigarettes, I once gave them up for five years. It was a question of character. Anybody who couldn't whip the cigarette habit, I thought, ought to be ashamed of himself. To prove I had true grit, I decided to fight.

It took a year to become a full-fledged non-smoker, by which I mean somebody who in the space of five minutes can hear that a favourite aunt has died that he is about to be fired and that he has to have all his teeth removed, without feeling an urge for a cigarette.

After a year of struggle, I reached that stage and lived at it for the next four. Jumbo engines failed at 15,000ft, blackmailers threatened to destroy me, governments pirated my pitiful savings in lightning raids, yet not once in all those four years did I feel the faintest urge for a cigarette.

The agony of breaking tobacco addiction is highly overstated. For the first couple of weeks to be sure, life was almost unendurable, but thereafter the problem was mostly a matter of concentration, for quitting cigarettes is a full-time job. If you think about not smoking to the exclusion of almost everything else for at least six months, you are almost certain to succeed.

Breaking the habit is, obviously, no job for people who have other work to do. The best way to accomplish it is to stop all other activity for six months and do nothing else but quit smoking. In the second six months, if my experience is any guide, you can do a modest amount of your usual wage-earning labour, attend three or four mild social occasions and resume a few low-pressure relationships with your family.

I am mentioning all this out of pride - not pride in defeating the addiction, but pride in the way I conducted myself afterwards. In my four years as a non-smoker, I never once abused an ungenerous smoker for not following my example.

Not once did I try to make some poor smoky wretch despair by gloating that my purified lungs and detoxified innards would assure me of the opportunity to say "I told you so" when he went prematurely to the grave.

In bars and restaurants, helpless addicts blew gales of smoke around my head, yet I felt no urge to scowl at them, or make a rude, or complain to the head waiter, or bartender that their stupid self-abuse was dulling my palate or ruining my capacity to distinguish between the fine Pilsener and the coarse, gassy American.

Nor did I press politicians for apartheid laws to isolate smokers

from the rest of society. When they came to my house, I provided ashtrays instead of telling them to smoke in the backyard. I didn't even object when one of my children proposed to marry a pack-a-day smoker.

My tolerance in retrospect seems saintlike now that we are in the age of the militant non-smoker, whose aim seems to be to make life more hellish than it already is for the addict. I was not motivated by ambition for sainthood, though. It was a simple case of sympathy for people less fortunate than I.

Even by that time, of course, almost everybody acknowledged that smoking was a health evil as well as a social nuisance. Many smokers, I assumed, seriously wished to be free of their curse but couldn't afford to spend six months to a year undergoing the cure.

Abusing these miserable people would have been like taunting paupers for not being rich enough to devote a year to tending to their own bodies. This is basically what today's militant non-smokers are up to. Of all life's misfortunes, the smoker is the last whose abuser can enjoy a sense of superiority refined by self-righteousness.

It is curious that a society sympathetic to additions of every other kind can spare none for the tobacco junkie. The cruelty of the medical people is even stranger. Are they at work on a miracle cure that will help the smoker overcome his habit over a weekend? If so, they keep mum about it, but not about much else that concerns smoking. With their incessant statistics, their main goal appears to be to drive the addict into severe depression because he cannot afford the time and money to cure himself. Better they should do nothing than darken the spirits of the afflicted.

I speak with some prejudice here, having rejoined the ranks of the smokers after my five-year experiment. It was a failure of character. One evening, to show how completely I had triumphed over tobacco bondage, I smoked a cigarette to instruct a friend on the case with which I could now take "em or leave 'em alone. Such is the evil of pride.

Before the night was out, I had smoked six more. The next day, a whole pack. That was several years ago. I keep meaning to quit again, and certainly will, as soon as I get a year free to do it. In the meantime I try to stay out of circulation, avoiding public places almost entirely now. I would hate the militant non-smokers to get me before the cigarettes do.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234.

## THE MATABELELAND ACCOUNT

The editorial independence of a newspaper means that the editor and his (or her) staff are free, within the law and the constraints of libel, to decide what is written in the paper. These decisions may be taken in the light of many different circumstances and in reaction to many different influences working on journalists, the editor and his staff together. So long as the ultimate response to those influences is made by journalists the concept of editorial independence remains intact.

Editorial independence, however, can rarely mean that editors reach decisions without some recognition of the wider consequences of those decisions. A newspaper is a business like any other. It produces something for sale. Its contents must be of primary importance, of course, but the cost of production and the selling price of the product also determine the success or failure of the enterprise. It is not possible for journalists to ignore those facts unless they work for an enterprise which either has an impenetrable monopoly or is the beneficiary of an inexhaustible subsidy. In newspapers, therefore, editorial independence is not an absolute indulgence to be exercised in defiance or ignorance of normal commercial considerations, where dwindling readers and mounting losses threaten a paper's very existence.

It follows that the journalistic decisions of editors whose papers are profitable inevitably command more respect from their commercial colleagues than those of editors whose papers make a loss. Though the editor and his staff must retain absolute journalistic control over the contents of the paper, that should not absolve the editor from the need to give an account for his decision to his company. Nor should mere profitability reduce that requirement for the editor's accountability, although it may favourably condition the climate in which an editor answers for his stewardship to commercial colleagues. There is thus a continuous dialogue between editorial and commercial, in which, though there are recognized to be autonomous areas of jurisdiction — none more so than the right of journalists to be solely responsible for their decisions about what to print — that jurisdiction must be accounted for.

These principles are acknowledged to a greater or lesser degree by most newspapers in this country, though few com-

panies have enshrined them in formal procedures. Times Newspapers has a formal constitution which recognizes the editor's sole responsibility for the contents of this newspaper; so does *The Observer*. In both cases the company maintains independent national directors whose purpose is to guarantee that the constitution is respected as much by the editor as by the proprietor or other members of the management.

The dispute between Mr Rowland, chairman of Lonrho, and the editor of *The Observer* about that paper's coverage of Zimbabwe was quite properly referred to the company's national directors. Their conclusions are that Mr Rowland, as proprietor, breached the constitution by interfering with the editor's right to decide what went into the paper. Mr Rowland actually denied that he interfered, though he certainly tried hard to influence the editor against publishing his article about Zimbabwe. He also denies that he argued that such an article would damage Lonrho's standing in Zimbabwe, but his whole sensitivity to the article, and Lonrho's wide business activities in Zimbabwe, suggest that one should not take that denial too seriously. Moreover, Lonrho's special position in Zimbabwe, and the fact that Mr Rowland over their years in exile managed to bankroll many Zimbabwean political leaders, must account for his particular desire to arrange for his editor to visit Zimbabwe and speak to the right people.

The facts of this particular case, therefore, suggest that this is not an isolated incident in which Mr Rowland has suddenly discovered to Lonrho's cost that he could not dictate to *The Observer* over its coverage of Zimbabwe. It was clear to everybody at the time of Lonrho's acquisition of *The Observer* that Mr Rowland's particular brand of entrepreneurial dirigisme in Africa would sit uneasily with a newspaper whose reputation was partly founded on its reportage of African affairs. It is thus hard to believe that this disagreement has blown up out of the blue. Indeed the facts suggest that Mr Rowland's proprietorial "interference" preceded his talk with Mr Trefford two Saturdays ago, even if it has only now been brought to public attention by reference to the independent national directors.

How else does one explain, the

appointment as the *Observer's* resident correspondent in Zimbabwe, of Mr Matatu who is connected with the Zimbabwe government and was employed at the initiative of Mr Rowland? That appointment aroused grave misgivings among other journalists and even Mr Trefford, having appointed Mr Matatu, seems to have had so little confidence in his Zimbabwe correspondent that he kept him totally in the dark about his researches into Matabeleland atrocities, ostensibly, but hardly credibly, on the grounds of his own protection.

How else, moreover, can one explain Mr Rowland's arrangement for Mr Trefford to visit Zimbabwe, in association with fellow directors of Lonrho, unless he expected that Lonrho's corporate interests, which he subsequently felt had been prejudiced by Mr Trefford's article, would be respected?

At least one result of the publication of Mr Trefford's article is that these muddy waters have now been cleared. It is hard to believe that the vigour of Mr Rowland's action can have been provoked by a single episode of this kind, nor that such an episode calls for such an inappropriate response as a demand for the editor's removal, or the sale of the paper. If the ferocity of his attack is because he has only just woken up to the fact that he is not able to turn *The Observer* into a vehicle for Lonrho's manipulative operations in Africa, well and good. But, notwithstanding his mercurial temperament, the sharpness of Mr Rowland's reaction to the episode suggests that editor and proprietor have more than one disagreement behind them, perhaps over a wider range of operations and caused by the paper's declining performance.

Mr Trefford's behaviour in Zimbabwe also suggests a desire to bring matters to the boil, perhaps because he felt that his position was otherwise becoming untenable. Whether he foresaw that the consequence of going about it in that way might be to consign his paper to an unknown future or the tender mercies of Mr Robert Maxwell is another matter. In the light of Mr Maxwell's manoeuvres yesterday, which resulted in two printing unions being virtually reimbursed for their fines in contempt of court, it must remain to be seen whether Mr Trefford's journalistic colleagues at the *Observer* will ultimately applaud those consequences or regret them.

## OFF THE GUIDELINES AGAIN?

Twelve months ago Mr Le Cheminant of the Treasury called the pay claim lodged by the civil service unions "utterly unrealistic". Within weeks the unions settled for a figure noticeably in excess of the expenditure plan provision. The other day Mr Le Cheminant's successor called the civil service claim for 1984 "miles too high", but now the signs point unmistakably to an offer by the Treasury above the 3 per cent level announced with alacrity last autumn. These, it might be said, are the feints and flourishes of bargaining.

They are also the uncertainties of purpose of Mrs Thatcher's government — not so different from its predecessors — in handling the pay of its own employees. After five years of drama (the 1981 strike) and painstaking inquiry (the Megaw report, still on the shelf), issues of principle are again submerged in the detail of a deal over the odds that were set out apparently so clearly and immutably in the expenditure white paper barely two months ago.

The great cry of the 1970s for the civil service, as for the rest of the public sector, was "comparability". This was the worm in the apple that awaited ministers at the end of the path up which they were so expensively led by Professor Clegg in 1979. Not only were comparisons costly — and one reason for the failure of expenditure control by the first Thatcher government. What sense did it make for a government committed to de-manning

the state to erect private sector pay as the norm for government employees? In the fullness of that logic "pay research" (the pseudo-science of civil service pay comparisons) was abolished in 1981.

But the Treasury evidently felt the absence of its grip. In December it agreed to an exercise by the Office of Manpower Economics aggregating pay settlements in the private sector — comparability resurrected. That study now lies on the bargaining table, a beacon to the unions. Negotiations are left in a febrile condition. On one side are those whose atavistic enthusiasm for reducing the size of the state (a laudable aim) becomes a generalized contempt for the state's servants. On the other are those dewy-eyed complainants about that ineffable quality "civil service morale" — this in a job which as well as offering high degrees of intrinsic satisfaction also offers security and (sometimes too much) guaranteed upwards advancement.

The clearest answer to what should determine the remuneration of the state's servants has been given recently by Sir Keith Joseph in the context of teachers' pay: supply and demand. In those terms, the publication today of new figures for recruitment to the civil service's senior administrative and professional posts indicates an insufficiency. The government demands economists, lawyers, administrators with managerial experience: the graduates and trained specialists

appear, in increasing number, to be attracted elsewhere. The Civil Service Commission's annual report on recruitment might, in one sense, be heartening. Perhaps there are signs of a cultural shift, a secular change in public estimation of the merits of state and private sector employment; perhaps, at the margin, the best and brightest are preferring jobs in business, finance and manufacturing over posts in public administration. But no one should wish the state understaffed in its vital functions. The signs are that to recruit and retain accountants, statisticians and engineers the state will have to pay more.

That means some comparability, to be sure; it means differentials; it means the Treasury resisting the efforts of the clerical and executive officers' unions to scoop the available pool on behalf of the low paid civil servants. These say it is anomalous and inefficient that a number of civil servants in the manual and lower clerical echelons should qualify for a social benefit such as Family Income Supplement on account of the size of their pay packet. On the contrary: it is no business of the Government as employer to take a unilateral stand on low pay. For the executive and clerical and manual jobs there is, the Treasury says, a buoyant demand except in the capital where things are a little tighter. That supplies a sure principle for setting this year's civil service pay claim firmly within the White Paper guidelines.

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Mr Brittan seems, in any case, to have overlooked the more fundamental provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties which is, for the most part, declaratory of existing customary law.

Article 60 thereof enables a party specially affected by another's "material breach" of a multilateral treaty to invoke it as a ground for suspending the operation of the treaty in its relations with the defaulting state. A "material breach" is, *inter alia*, defined as "violation of a provision essential to the accomplishment of the object or purpose of the treaty".

Can there be any doubt that Libya's recent conduct represents a

## The bishop and Sinn Fein

From the Bishop of Down and Connor

Sir, At a recent press conference, called by Sinn Fein in Belfast, it was said that Mr Adams, President of Sinn Fein and MP for West Belfast, was disappointed and sorry that I had declined to meet him in order to "commence a dialogue", in an effort "to seek ways to resolve the present conflict".

My letter to Mr Adams, which Sinn Fein released at that press conference, made it plain that I regard my role as a spiritual and moral one, not a political one. My later homily at the funeral of the murdered girl, Miss Mary Travers, was concerned with the moral evil of her murder and it addressed to those guilty an appeal to repent and seek God's forgiveness.

I most earnestly hoped that the

attempted killing of her father would surely lead at last to some indication of that "change of heart" on the part of the leaders of Sinn Fein for which I had pleaded in my letter to Mr Adams. Sadly, I find no indication of a change of heart in Sinn Fein's recent statement or in any of their utterances since my letter to Mr Adams of December 24 last.

Rather, my own position has been misrepresented by being placed by Sinn Fein in a political, rather than in a religious and moral context.

I wish therefore to repeat the

concluding paragraph of my letter to Mr Adams.

Pope John Paul, in his latest message for peace, calls for a conversion, a change of heart, as a condition for peace. As pastor responsible for the spiritual welfare of the Catholics of Down and Connor, I shall not cease believing that this change of heart is possible and praying that it may happen.

I'd were to receive any indication that a meeting might help towards that result, I should be more than happy to meet you. This remains my position.

Yours faithfully,

ALAN B. DALY,

Canon, Down Cathedral,

Somerton Road,

Belfast,

April 24.

‘Jesus: The Evidence’

From Mr David W. Rolfe

Sir, I have been criticised most vehemently in your newspaper for the style of the television series on Channel Four, *Jesus: The Evidence*. I make no apology for using every available device, cliché or otherwise, to help illustrate an intrinsically dense subject which has remained for so long exclusive to those with the time and facility to study it for themselves rather than rely on traditional church teaching.

Aware of the problems, most "professional" Christians today base their faith on much broader principles than belief in the historicity of the New Testament. Yet the public by and large still assume that belief in virgin birth, divine miracles and bodily resurrection are requirements for church membership.

The purpose of our series was to bring out in the open this division between clerical and lay beliefs. If the Church prefers to defend itself on its principles it upholds rather than the creeds it has inherited, let it say so openly. Who knows, it may find an audience prepared to reconsider joining.

Despite the fact that TV has previously attempted to tackle the subject, it has never before engendered the widespread debate on issues central to Christianity and religious belief in general which is now taking place.

DAVID W. ROLFE, Producer/Director, *Jesus: The Evidence*, London Weekend Television, South Bank Television Centre, Kent House, Upper Ground, SE1.

Dignity in the pits

From Mr R. H. C. Gregory

Sir, To claim that the letter of the Rev R. H. Marshall (April 21) was one-sided would be something of an understatement. Those miners who wish to work also have a right to do so without harassment from others.

The dignity of the miners who are on strike is in danger of being sacrificed on the political altar, if the actions of a minority of their number continue in the present way. Yours faithfully,

R. H. C. GREGORY,

42 Gainsborough Road, N12,

April 22.

Embassy outrage

From Mr Richard Gordon

Sir, The Home Secretary appears to justify the decision to release the murderer of WPC Fletcher, at least in part, by resort to principles of international law and, in particular, to the so-called doctrine of "inviolability".

It is true that the 1964 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations recognizes, by articles 22 and 29, the inviolability of diplomatic missions and agents. However, no statement as to how far the principle extends or under which circumstances (if any) it is circumscribed.

Mr Brittan seems, in any case, to have overlooked the more fundamental provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties which is, for the most part, declaratory of existing customary law.

Article 60 thereof enables a party specially affected by another's "material breach" of a multilateral treaty to invoke it as a ground for suspending the operation of the treaty in its relations with the defaulting state. A "material breach" is, *inter alia*, defined as "violation of a provision essential to the accomplishment of the object or purpose of the treaty".

Can there be any doubt that Libya's recent conduct represents a

## The long view in foreign affairs

From Sir Geoffrey Jackson

Sir, Your excerpts (April 16) from Sir Anthony Parsons' forthcoming Iranian memoirs confirm strikingly Geoffrey Moorhouse's references to the same interlude in his book, *The Diplomats*. I quoted them in my own *Concorde Diplomacy - The Ambassador's Role in the World Today*, adding that it was a pity that our Tehran Embassy had forsaken "elegant reports" on village conditions which doubtless would have given early warning of the shock-wave to come.

In this way Sir Anthony now confirms my own belief that British diplomacy has overreacted to pressure, even to fashion. After a series of virtual show trials, from the Fowkes report on, it has arguably applied itself to the motions of trade promotion at the expense of the political analysis and extrapolation at which it had always excelled.

Sir Anthony himself was acutely sensitive to the conspiratorial atmosphere of the Shah's Tehran twilight; a good-humoured reference to it on his return home was at once picked up by the British press. It is sad therefore that this perspective, supported by the misgivings of his staff to which he so honourably pays tribute, should have been frustrated by a temporary downgrading of political intelligence as an instrument of Britain's traditional and continuing economic and trading priorities.

Yours faithfully,

SHERARD COWPER-COLES,

60 Kilmock Road, SW11,

April 16.

Insolvency law change

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers

Sir, Pleas from the Institute of Directors that competent company directors will be deterred from joining ailing companies if the Government legislates on its proposed reforms to insolvency laws (*The Times*, April 16) will fall on hollow ground among workers in the clothing industry.

My union's members will be incensed at the suggestion that the institute is hopeful of success in its attempt to change the Social Security Act 1975 to abolish the personal liability of directors of failed companies for unpaid National Insurance contributions. Thousands of clothing workers have, over the past couple of years, experienced very considerable difficulties and delays when seeking state benefits because companies they had previously been employed with went out of business owing large sums in unpaid income tax and National Insurance contributions, already deducted from their wages.

We have countless examples of fly-by-night company bosses engaging in this practice, which is effectively cheating their workpeople out of their entitlement to benefit. It has happened in Wales, in the Midlands, in Northern Ireland, in the North-west, and it is commonplace in the North-east. These very same characters pop up again a few days after the insolvency of one company heading another. Mean-

while, our members — often mothers with young children — can wait for weeks or months without benefit after losing their jobs.

Rather than dispensing with existing legislation, the Government should be enforcing it more rigorously. After all, such legislation is not particularly harsh. Directors are only considered responsible if they "knew, or reasonably could have known" that payments have not been made to the Inland Revenue. In 1983 less than £1m in unpaid contributions has been recovered as a result.

The DHSS has not adequately used its power to recover these non-payments. Consequently, employers are not deterred from using evasion and National Insurance deduction for trading and other purposes. In many cases this may keep the company in business for longer than would otherwise be the case, but in the clothing industry the standard and authenticity of company records and the extent to which one company is a supplier or customer of another company under the same ownership are generally such that it is not possible to say what actually happens to this money.

Unfortunately, a relaxation in the law, as suggested by the Institute of Directors, would further encourage employers to engage in this type of abuse.

Yours sincerely,

ALEC SMITH, General Secretary, National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, 16 Charles Square, N1, April 17.

Teachers' pay claim

From Mr Michael Cole

Sir, Sir Keith Joseph suggests that the reason why teachers are so poorly paid is simply a reflection of supply and demand. Can we expect, therefore, that doctors' salaries will be reduced in view of the fact that so many qualified medics are now out of work? I think not.

The salaries of teachers are low because of their lack of industrial muscle. When they strike their employers rejoice since funds reserved for teachers' salaries can then be diverted elsewhere.

Unlike the work of the manufacturing industries, the work of teachers does not produce a saleable

commodity, so who cares if teachers withhold their labour? Unlike the power workers they are unable to hold the nation and government to ransom by threatening to cut off energy supplies.

So, Sir Keith is probably right, but those sections of the community without muscle ought reasonably to be able to expect their politicians to protect them from injustice. If not, they might find that they have no need for politicians, which might bring about an unfortunate adjustment to Sir Keith's salary.

Yours faithfully,

M. E. COLE,

The Grange,

Somerset,

April 17.

Shylock revisited

From Ms Clare Devitt

Sir, As one of the "impressional minds" to which Mr William Frankel referred in his article, "Shylock: must we suffer this old infamy?" (April 17), I object to his claim that we are likely to be influenced by the malevolent stereotypes of a sixteenth-century playwright.

Fortunately the youth of today is not quite as naïve as Mr Frankel appears to be in his suggestion that the RSC's production of *The Merchant of Venice* is inciting or

reinforcing religious prejudice. I suppose that the Stratford audience or even children in a classroom are prone to antisemitism because of an encounter with *The Merchant* is an insult to the intelligence of both.

I saw and enjoyed Mr. Ian McDiarmid's performance and, like him, I believe that the modern audience does not "leave its mind at home" (*The Times*, April 9).

Yours sincerely,

CLARE DEVITT,

The Orchard,

Nicker Hill,

Stanton,

Nottingham,

April 17.

Now, it is well known that we have always had elections in Brazil every four years, by secret popular direct ballot, to choose senators and deputies to the Federal Congress and representatives to the States' Assemblies (Brazil is a federation of states).

The last elections we had of that kind and also to choose the governors for 22 states of our federation, mayors, municipal and state representatives, took place in 1982, as it was fully and widely reported at the occasion by your prestigious newspaper.

Incidentally, it should be noted that no accusation of rigging or manipulation of the results of the elections has ever been suggested by the Opposition parties, which, as a matter of fact, have been increasing their representation in Congress and carried the election for governorship for 10 states, including the very important ones of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Minas Gerais, which have now, consequently, governors from the Opposition parties.

It is thus totally wrong to say that "no Brazilian under the age of 40 has voted in a free election."

Yours truly,

MARIO GIBSON-BARBOZA,

Brazilian Embassy,

32 Green Street, W1,

April 18.

Brazilian elections

From the Ambassador of Brazil

Sir, Today's *Times* (April 18) publishes an important editorial on the political situation in Brazil, under the title "Brazilians on the streets". Without wishing to enter into a discussion on points in the editorial which are open to interpretation, I would like to ask your attention to a statement which is factually incorrect. I refer to the affirmation contained in the editorial that "no Brazilian under the age of 40 has voted in a free election".

There are other instances, recent and latent, where the bill may be similarly heavy if the shadow of things to come is neglected for an immediate and often illusory statistical substance. Sir Anthony's candour, and abstention from self-justifying hindsight, should encourage his colleagues and successors to combine innovation with the longer view also.

Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY JACKSON,

63b Cadogan Square, SW1,

April 16.

From Mr S. L. Cowper-Coles

Sir, Sir Anthony Parsons claims (feature, April 14) that it would be hard to identify physical monuments to the British presence in the Middle East and that traces of that presence are faintest in Egypt.

He forgets the great Nile irrigation works, of which the first Aswan Dam, built by Sir Benjamin Baker, the designer of the Forth Bridge, between 1898 and 1902, is the finest symbol. This vast system of canals and barrages, which is still used and which still bears in many places the legend "Ransoms of Ipswich", cast in iron, transformed the life of the Egyptian fellah.

Yours faithfully,

SHERARD COWPER-COLES,

60 Kilmock Road, SW11,

April 16.

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Yours sincerely,

CLARE DEVITT,

The Orchard,

Nicker Hill,

Stanton,











## THE ARTS

## Theatre

## Resolution of brilliance

Number One  
Queen's

If this piece turns out to be Jean Anouilh's swan-song, as Bryan Appleyard suggested on this page last Monday, it will stand as a fitting last statement from the century's most theatrical playwright. In any other form, the story of *Number One* would be intolerable. On the stage, its misogynistic, self-centred obsessions become the pretext for a wonderfully ingenious game.

Leon Saint-Pé (shades of the crumbling hero of *Waltz of the Treasons*) is an aging gout-stricken playwright, striving to keep at work in spite of a ban on alcohol and tobacco and the relentless stream of friends, relatives and artisans who ceaselessly invade his studio with demands for cash hand-outs.

Leon, meanwhile, is battling with a comedy on the theme of eccentricity; and, even if you miss the clue of an opening speech written in the form of stage directions ("enter an aging playwright..."), it is soon manifestly clear that the play we are seeing is the play that he is failing to write.

This means that he is cast both as master and slave: the creator of the other characters and also their victim. And it is the particular genius of Anouilh

to resolve that apparently hopeless contradiction. He tackles it from several directions; most obviously by switching like a master conjurer between theatrical fact and illusion (so that Leon will turn to the house for sympathy when someone remarks that nobody likes him).

Simultaneously, Leon keeps up a running commentary on his own life and on the progress of the action, hurling imprecations against his grandfather for thoughtlessly picking up the malady which he has inherited and deciding that there have been too many monologues and something had better start happening soon.

After the interval, Leon gets down to business and hatches a plot to revenge himself upon his tormentors by putting them at each other's mercy. At that point, the play takes on a new interest. Hitherto, Leon the writer has had everything his own way and has shown up his family and friends as a pack of vain, grasping, heartless parasites. Once he entrusts the events to them, they start fighting back.

His estranged wife totters home, determined to die in the family bed. His cadging novelist friend (Joe Melia) carries off the Prix Goncourt. Summoning "the cuckold" with a little bell, Leon gloatingly breaks the news of his daughter's infidelity to his

stuffed-shirt son-in-law, only to find himself confronting a haughty aristocrat who takes the news in his stride. "I'd have thought that scene would have been funnier", Leon remarks plaintively. As it is, it belongs to the superb, robot-voiced Peter Blythe, who enunciates punning lines like "I don't want to lose this start I've got" without turning a hair.

Leo McKern's Leon, vastly bandaged and hobbling over Sue Plummer's attic studio like a wounded sea-lion, trumpeting exasperation and stray moments of triumph with a force that has you waiting for a terminal heart-attack, brings a quality of emotional generosity to the part which adds to the appeal of Michael Frayn's wittily cold-blooded translation.

McKern obscures the fact that Leon, as written, is as malignant as he is soft-centred. And it is Robert Chetwyn's production that takes on the task of presenting the other characters through the eyes of "the old farce-writer", through caricatured waxwork groupings and grotesque portraits of female vindictiveness and greed. Shirley Cassidy and Margaret Whiting excel in those; not forgetting Anthony Sharp in the obligatory role of a Moliéresque sawbones.

## Irving Wardle

sweaty Paris kitchens and foul London doss-houses, as the novelist describes it - fluidly and economically on stage. Antony Higginson and Simon Roberts, as Orwell's older and younger self, divide the authorial voice between them while Mr Roberts exchanges ill-paid jobs or meets a humbling variety of hoboes in between hand-outs from a prosperous friend.

Mr Stein relishes the technical challenges for their own sake and his designer, Norman Coates, provides screens that transparently reveal a grim brick street, or the Paris laundry above which pseudo-Communists draw subscriptions, and then blank out to show only a line of dossiers busily-picked

toes beneath. The best sequences use the whole company, screaming and colliding in a flurry of order-dockets and a hysteria of bells as young George copes with plate-washing and spud-bashing, or as the resident cast of a neighbourhood bistrot getting sadly drunk on their one night off.

Much more likable than Orwell's narrator, Mr Roberts moves through all this with Candide-like optimism, his eyes finally filling with tears for his victimized former colleagues. Supervising and commenting, Mr Higginson closely resembles the mature Orwell but with a smilingly well-bred, actorish delivery Orwell would have loathed.

## Anthony Masters

Down and Out in  
Paris and London

Gate, Latchmere

Low Stein staked his claim to this book by directing the Paris half in 1979, and this Orwell year he completes it. Most book adaptations on stage are more enjoyable if you have not read the original, which perhaps does not say much for them. If you have, you look for exceptional flair and freshness of approach, perhaps with the bonus of rich realization of the characters the novelist draws; but that seldom happens.

It is easy, though effective up to a point, to put a narrative - in this case Orwell's sojourn in

## Television

## A risk of obsession

Hey, Good Looking (Channel 4) was last night concerned with cigarette advertising or, as Janet Street Porter put it, the search for acceptable images "to promote the unacceptable". An object enjoyed by many millions of people is "unacceptable" only in a theoretical sense, of course, but the point was made; and such is the difficulty of the advertisers' task that they have tried to associate their product with the very qualities

it excludes - individualism, ruggedness, sexual attractiveness and sporting prowess.

This represents a triumph of form over content and is thus the epitome of advertising itself: a situation compounded in the Sixties when, as the connection between cigarettes and lung cancer was apparently established, the advertising of the fatal item became jolly or whimsical: not so much a case of laughing at death (although at least one cinema advertisement, portraying soldiers and African natives puffing at cigarettes as they kill each other, did exactly that) as proclaiming by stealth the absence of any real reason for promoting or even smoking cigarettes.

By lucky chance, at least for those who like coherent evenings, Q.E.D. (BBC 1) examined *The War of Wives* Down Under on the same subject. There are now anti-smoking groups in Australia who believe that manufacturers should not be allowed to advertise cigarettes.

This might be construed as an assault upon the liberty of the advertisers - a laughable idea, perhaps, but if the advertising of all products with unhealthy side-effects was banned, there would hardly be any advertising at all. More importantly, however, these groups might be underestimating the intelligence of the Australian public and its ability to "decode" the advertisements; and, when it is suggested that the cigarette manufacturers are "riding roughshod over the health of Australians", they are dangerously over-stating their case. People who smoke are riding, in some fashion, over themselves.

It is easy, perhaps, to become obsessed with the phenomenon of cigarettes (the more emotive term is "the tobacco industry", which implies a conspiracy of some kind), and the doctor who claimed that a patient who died from cardiac arrest did so "because he smoked" was no doubt over-simplifying the case. It also remains an evident fact that you are not going to stop people smoking simply by defacing advertisements or performing as skeletons in street theatre. You might bore them to death, instead.

## Peter Ackroyd

ACADEMY FELLINI'S  
Oxford St - 437 2981AND THE SHIP SAILS ON  
A GALA RELEASE

"The opening is in itself worth the price of admission...A grandiose Fellinian divertissement"

"Ravishing...A flamboyant fantasy that for all its deeply felt meaning, is primarily enormous fun"

"Marvellously entertaining"

"Unique, curious, ingratiatingly charming"

LSO/Abbado  
Festival Hall/Radio 3

It was a relief, at the start of this sixth instalment in the LSO's Beethoven cycle, to see the string section slimmer down to eight first violins, eight seconds and a mere six cellos and four basses for Maurizio Pollini's account of the Second Piano Concerto. Would that it could have stayed thus for the rest of the concert, for the gains in clarity and sharpness were considerable, and apply complemented Pollini's somewhat

Yeoh Ean Mei  
Purcell Room

Yeoh Ean Mei, the final performer featured in the Park Lane Group's "Young Artist at Six" series, is without doubt a greatly gifted pianist, blessed with a commanding technique and an impressive and tastefully applied control of tone, special qualities of many oriental artists (she comes from Malaysia). Yet her playing remains promising rather than remarkable.

Jasper Johns  
Greene Street,  
New York

A Jasper Johns exhibition is always a notable event in New York, but, when the artist has not been shown by his gallery for eight years, it becomes an occasion of major moment. Fourteen of Johns's recent paintings are at the Greene Street Gallery in SoHo. Together they make the biggest draw of the season for students, collectors and cognoscenti.

Arriving hot on the heels of Roy Lichtenstein's 96-foot mural which was painted on the wall of the same gallery (with the advertised objective of being erased at the end of the show), the Johns canvases have the added bonus of being destined for permanent positions in the grandest museums and greatest private collections. It is no secret that these works are among the most expensive priced canvases by any artist of Johns's generation.

In his 1976 exhibition Johns

showed seven pictures of richly cross-hatched design - nearly, if not altogether, abstract works. The colourful lines of hatching, done as if in three dimensions, were almost universally received as a puzzling deviation in what had previously been the most brilliant career in American post-Fifties art.

This new exhibition will give further pause for reflection. The work comes from the artist who, with his friend Robert Rauschenberg, was credited with fathering Pop as early as 1955 with American flag paintings, and later with targets and numbers - popular subjects rendered in rich layers of encaustic. Along with his sculptures - beer cans, toothbrushes and electric light bulbs done in Sculptmetal - Johns converted banal iconography into aesthetic classics.

Now he seems to be off on another tangent, with a group of works that depict a range of mysterious personal symbols and literary allusions as rich in private reference as any Pre-Raphaelite painting. The pictures are so overloaded with hidden meaning and messages that they sometimes droop with the weight of what they are forced to carry. Conceived in what can only be called a free-association manner, these personal signs, many in rude trompe-l'oeil, require the sort of critical reading which has brought many a forgotten art guru back to prominence.

Racing Thoughts of 1983, the most beautiful and important painting in the exhibition, is thus seen to contain, depending on what you read, a set of genitalia or a set of bath taps; corduroy trousers or a bath towel; a reproduction of the Mona Lisa or a reference to

Concerto opened out after a stiff, unrelenting first movement to a wonderfully eloquent Andante, its towards perfectly balanced chording and subtly simple articulation; how he can feel that Andante's magical progressions so clearly through those elephantine orchestral unisons galumphing around him defies belief.

Pollini's playing can often be brittle: in the Fourth Concerto's first movement he thwacked the off-beat accents fiercely, and created an astonishing vision from a cadenza which sounded more like Busoni than Beethoven, but turned out to be by the

latter, rarely performed. The central trill in the Andante bit into the keyboard with Stravinskian incisiveness, but then faded with magical ease.

For Abbado, on the other hand, everything had to be softened: in the Fourth Symphony, even the sudden fortissimo chords were lunged into, the staccatos smoothed out, and the timpani seemed "covered" in velvet. The performance was never lacking in energy and drive, but it had more force than sense.

## Nicholas Kenyon

listeners in rather than reaching out to them.

Stravinsky's *Piano Rag Music* lies at the opposite end of the musical spectrum. More like a distorted image in a hall of mirrors than the undisciplined rhapsody that Miss Yeoh's own programme note held it to be, the work was clearly relished by her. Certainly its brittle distortions had more substance to them than Copland's soporifically gentle, and distinctly un-busy, *Four Piano Blues*.

## Stephen Pettitt

## Concerts

Emotional generosity: Leo McKern (right) with Anthony Sharp



Dire Straits are a pop phenomenon of unusual sincerity: Richard Williams meets the group's star, Mark Knopfler (right)

## Graceful strengths

By most of the yardsticks of pop music in 1984, Dire Straits are so conventional as to be practically invisible. No exotic dancing, no men in frocks, no million-dollar videograms gratifying adolescent fantasies unlike the preeners and the poseurs, the members of Dire Straits exude the simple, almost stolid, slightly dated aura of men getting on with a job of work.

The plain fact remains, however, that nice girls continue to like Dire Straits, in very large numbers. The group may have had its origins, seven years ago, in the heavily masculine world of London's rock pubs, but something - some rare combination of strength and grace - in the songs, the voice and the superbly fluent guitar improvisations of Mark Knopfler caught the attention and the affection of intelligent womanhood, leading to sales for their four studio albums counted in the millions from Holland to Japan and from Canada to Australia.

Along with Sting, of The Police, Mark Knopfler is perhaps the last internationally successful British rock star to be produced by the era of the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. Reserved and reflective in manner, restrained in appearance, he is unrepresentative of his profession, and appears unchanged by several years of applause, adulation and appointments with accountants.

His own explanation of the group's popularity is delivered with a judicious deliberation and a pleasant lack of false modesty. "Somehow," he muses, "it gets across to people that what is being done is honest and skilful. They realize that nobody is out there to make a quick-buck killing."

The group's latest manifestation is a recording - on disc, audio cassette and video tape - commemorating its last tour, which began in the final weeks of 1982 and ended seven months later, after visits to Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Titled *Alchemy*, the recording both summarizes the group's development and offers a convenient opportunity, according to Knopfler, for a fresh start in a new direction.

He suspects that the process of physical growth - from the original impecunious quartet playing in pubs to the present technically sophisticated seven-piece band performing in huge arenas - may be at an end. It was a process, he agrees, which found an unusually exact and significant parallel in the development of his own songwriting techniques.

Beginning with the songs of the third LP, *Making Movies*, he composed at the piano as well as with the guitar and, in place of the simple linear structures of his early songs, he found himself writing more formal verses and choruses. "The songs dictated the style of the arrangements," he says. "I began thinking more orchestrally. The culmination of that approach can be found in 'Telegraph Road', a 14-minute epic which was part of 1982's *Love Over Gold*. I wrote it over a period of months, at the piano in the sound-checks during an

American tour. I suppose I was trying to do everything all at once - compose a song, write a novel, make a movie.

"I'd never write a song like that now, although that sense of scale suited me at the time. Now I'd like to try something else. We can't go back to being a simple four-piece band. We've done the John, Paul, George and Ringo bit, and then we had the exhilaration of adding the keyboards and all the synthesizers and discovering the extra dimension they could add to the music. What next? It could be acoustic guitars, or it could be brass instruments. I really don't know yet."

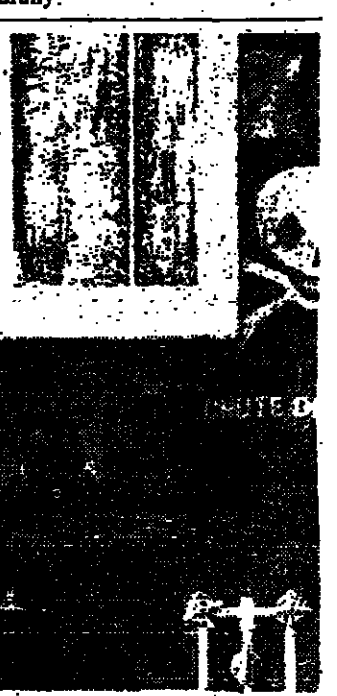
Typical of Knopfler's thoughtful approach was the subtle *coup de théâtre* which closed each concert of the tour. As the final encore, the group played his gentle instrumental theme tune from Bill Forsyth's film *Local Hero* while the technicians came on stage to dismantle the equipment. One by one, the musicians slipped away into the night, leaving the audience to depart in a mood of unusual serenity.

"A concert can be a very powerful experience," Knopfler says. "I've noticed in the past that people can be carried to such a pitch that they find themselves leaving a concert with their energy still buzzing and nowhere to take it. We deliberately chose to defuse that power, to let people 'down gently'."

In such details, and in the lavishness of the amplification and lighting systems, the concerts certainly made a poignant contrast with the simplicity of presentation of the group's early days. "In order to sustain the performance over a couple of hours or more, you have to make use of certain devices and effects," Knopfler observes. "For instance, we spent a lot of time on our lighting - but one evening we found ourselves playing in a Spanish bull-ring before dark, and everybody enjoyed it tremendously. It was comforting to know that we don't depend on the effects."

Knopfler's command of his craft has been broadened by his recent experience in the film world. His soundtrack for *Local Hero* was widely praised, and will be followed by music for Forsyth's next film, *Comfort and Joy*, and for a David Puttnam production titled *Cal*, directed by Pat O'Connor. "It's a chance to do instrumental music," he says, "and an opportunity to experiment with varieties of music that might not fit on to a Dire Straits record."

His enthusiasm returns when he speaks of the moments of inspiration which make song-writing a pleasure. "It's the moment when you know you're really on to something. It happened to me when I was writing 'Tunnel of Love'. There's a certain part of the song that I call the breakdown and when I got there I could feel the drums, the piano, all the things that I would use all the instruments to do. When you get to that state, there's a strange sense of one thing following another, of elements falling into place quite naturally."



Racing Thoughts, the most important painting on show

Puppetry  
Hungarian State  
Sadler's Wells

To have puppets playing puppet sounds faintly incestuous, yet *Petrushka* is much the most successful item of four brought by the Hungarian State Puppet Theatre to Sadler's Wells on Tuesday. The puppets, often not much less than life-size and sometimes more, inhabit an inner stage - or, more strictly, a floorless space, since they are generally manipulated from below by puppeteers hidden behind high-screens.

Artificial figures do not match the pathos brought by human performers, to the

leading roles in *Petrushka*, but the fairground setting of their drama becomes more fun in this version, with improbable acrobats, an incredible tightrope walker, an impossible fire-eater, even a set of those Russian babushka dolls who lift away to reveal smaller versions of themselves which then join hands and dance.

Unfortunately, puppets cannot really dance, only mimic dancing. Hence, the programme's one flop, *The Miraculous Mandarin*, where the music (recorded, all evening) cruelly exposes their limits by allowing time for expression they do not provide. Lucky matinee audiences will dodge this work.

Most of the programme is directed by Kato Szonyi and designed by Ivan Koods. The one

exception is *The Firebird*, for which Vera Brody is director and joint designer with Koods. Set to the suite from the ballet, this shows a similarly imaginative and colourful treatment, including clever use of projections and shadows but in a more sentimental vein.

Only one of the works shown here is not an adaptation of a stage ballet. *Classical Symphony* uses Prokofiev's music for a farce about a *commedia dell'arte* performance that goes wrong when a spectator's dog joins in. There are live actors, too, in that one: clearly the ensemble has no doctrinaire approach to its work. The season continues until May 5 as part of a puppet festival spread over several theatres.

## John Percival

**"RIVETING"**  
As *Wired* The Times  
**Robert Altman's  
STREAMERS**  
STARTS THURSDAY  
GATE BLOOMSBURY  
837-8402 837-1177

**DANIEL  
TAKES  
A TRAIN**  
Directed by  
Pat Sandor  
Award winning  
International Critics Award  
Crown Prize and Best Actor  
Film Festival 1983  
GATE  
CINEMA NOTTINGHILL  
721-0220 721-8750

**JOHN THAW  
JOYCE  
WALLING CARLY  
BARBARA LILLY  
MURRAY BOWERS  
JACKIE SMITH WOOD**

**GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S  
Pugmation**  
Directed by  
RAY COONEY  
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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

### The snag in Britain's one-word solution

The City appears to be regarding the latest turn of economic events in the United States with unconcern, even verging on complacency. On the one hand there are those who point to the recent, albeit tentative signs that the American economy may be slowing from the breakneck pace of recovery in the first quarter and the still moderate pace of inflation. In these circumstances, they argue, the Federal Reserve will not feel the need for a further tightening of the monetary screw.

The pressure on interest rates will ease. On the other hand there are those, now in the majority, who see higher interest rates as inevitable. Inflation is already pointing upward and the rapid drop in unemployment and swiftly rising capacity utilization presages significant pressure on prices over the coming year. Private credit demand has surged ahead, while federal borrowing needs remain at record levels and credible action by the President and Congress to curb the budget deficit has yet to be taken. If the Fed maintains a tight monetary stance, interest rates must rise.

This certainly appears to be the consensus view of the US financial markets. The US bonds, which perked up a little on Tuesday after lower than expected inflation figures, sagged again yesterday as the key Federal Funds rate rose above 10 per cent, and the dollar, though taking a breather yesterday, has found a new lease of life.

The calm with which these events are viewed on this side of the Atlantic can be explained in one word - "decoupling". Britain, it is argued, need no longer slavishly follow American interest rates up and down. Its inflation performance is likely to be better, its fiscal stance is tighter and confidence in the dollar is waning. So Britain does not have to match American rates to stop funds leaving the country.

In fact, the "decoupling" process has been going on for some time: for the last eight years, according to an analysis published by Phillips & Drew, the brokers today. The differential between UK and US long rates, which peaked at more than five percentage points in the mid-1970s, has steadily narrowed since and reversed itself in 1982. The US bond yields are now more than two percentage points above British gilts, and this gap is likely to widen later this year, the brokers predict.

Williams de Broe, another broker reaching a similar conclusion, expects British inflation next year to be almost 3 per cent below that in the US - for the first time in many years.

The snag, however, is the exchange rate. Some City voices are already expressing concern over sterling weakness - it has lost nearly 5 per cent in value over the past six months - and its likely impact on inflation. The recent behaviour of the dollar does not suggest that the lure of higher interest rates has wholly faded. Letting the exchange rate take the strain becomes an increasingly risky strategy for a Chancellor determined to deliver on lower inflation.

It is possible, however, that the dollar's latest comeback will be a brief affair. The next set of US trade figures out tomorrow are likely to trigger fresh anxieties on problems of financing the yawning current account deficit, now widely expected to reach \$75 billion.

### Unit trusts on a high

Unit trust sales hit a record last month: at £328m, they just surpassed January's peak figure of £327m. Net new investment for the month was £190m - a big improvement on the February figure of £144.6m.

But other events should preoccupy the hierarchy of the Unit Trust Association,

which seems dangerously ready to bury its head in the sand. "No one at all has indicated that they might resign from the Unit Trust Association commission agreement", affirmed Miss Audrey Head, the chairman of the UTA, yesterday. But on her own admission, neither she nor any other executives in the UTA hierarchy apparently had any notion that Arbutnot, which opted out of the UTA last month was about to resign.

The whole industry is waiting with bated breath to see whether the Inland Revenue will allow the controversial Arbutnot scheme clearance. Arbutnot has lumped its unit trusts under an umbrella scheme giving the unit trust investor the ability to switch between any one of its funds, while remaining within the same unit trust and most important, without incurring any capital gains tax liability. At least, that is the theory. It has not yet been tested in the courts.

In order to market the fund, Arbutnot has been obliged to offer intermediaries annual renewal commission - a move specifically outlawed by the UTA, and the cause of Arbutnot's precipitate departure from the association. Deprived of the initial commission normally earned on moving clients out of one unit trust into another, intermediaries had to be offered some palliative.

Miss Head keeps a brave face on things. "We have had no requests yet to look at our commission scales." And on the Arbutnot scheme: "I will be most surprised if other groups attempt to copy it."

That sounds like wishful thinking. "We are not looking to copy this scheme but you can get these things going pretty quickly" was the equivocal response from Mr Jeremy Edwards, of Henderson, one of the more alert investment groups. Competitors cannot afford to ignore the Arbutnot example - if it works.

The UTA will then be faced with two options - mass defections from the association, or a massive overhaul of its commission rules. It is not just the Arbutnot scheme which is shaking the structure. Even Miss Head volunteered cautiously that she is expecting one or more members to put forward proposals for new commission on regular savings schemes.

### Coming to terms with two nations

The trouble with regional policy, Mr Walter Goldsmith of the Institute of Directors said yesterday, is that it has not taken any account of the individual strengths and weaknesses of the regions. Industry and jobs have been diverted from one region to another, often going reluctantly, without any thought as to whether this was a sensible strategy for the area, or whether there were other things - besides subsidies and tax breaks - that could be done to make it more attractive for companies to move there of their own accord.

Mr Goldsmith's point is given added force by some figures from the Employment Department on the likely expansion of the labour force in each region. While the number of people wanting work in Britain as a whole is expected to grow by 3 per cent in the decade to 1991, the labour force is expected to shrink in the North West and grow even more rapidly in East Anglia, the South West and the East Midlands.

This is mostly a result of demographic changes, reflecting the continuing division between the expanding, younger South and the declining, ageing North. Better surely to acknowledge and build on what is, than fight the trend in vain.

### Wordplex plans for full quote

Wordplex Information Systems, the manufacturer and distributor of word processing equipment and software, is planning a full listing by way of a tender offer.

The company was set up in 1976 and is entirely owned by Canada Development Corporation, though most of its

business is in Britain. Its five-year profit record has been chequered - even uninspiring. But the directors are forecasting profits of £800,000 against a loss of £175,000 for the first half to the end of June, largely on the back of a 40 per cent sales increase.

The offer at the minimum

tender price of 240p would raise £24.4m for CDC, which has put in £9.5m to strengthen the balance sheet. Another £500,000 will be put in by Towergold, the investment company of Mr John Heywood, the chairman, giving it a 2 per cent stake plus options for another 1.6 per cent.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### MAA chief to leave

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Mr Alan Dix, it to step down in June next year as director general of the Motor Agents Association. He will then be 63.

He had been in the job for nine years and he has spent 35 years in the industry, having been managing director of Volkswagen GB for four years, with a later stint as marketing director of British Leyland International during the 1970s.

Mr Dix, in the association's annual report for 1983, yesterday disclosed a new peak in car trade business failures as the price war took its toll.

The industry now had a business failure rate second only to general retailing, Mr Dix said. In England and Wales alone failures totalled 2,401 last year.

● GALLAHER, the quoted British tobacco subsidiary of American Brands Inc, believes its share of the British cigarette market increased from 32 per cent to 33 per cent in the first quarter of this year. Its profits rose from £30m to £36.9m in the same period.

● SPEAR & JACKSON has announced pretax profits of the

year to December 31, 1983 of £1.2m (losses of £1.75m), and is planning to pay a final dividend of 3.5p, making a 1983 total of 5.25p (1p). Earnings per share emerge at 13.9p, and gearing is down to 9:1 per cent, with net borrowings well below £1m.

Tempus, page 19 THOMSON TRAVEL, THE LEADING British holiday operator, increased its profits by almost one third from £32m to £42.3m last year. It expects record holiday sales this year but says intense competition means profits may be less than for 1983.

● FRANCIS INDUSTRIES has promised a profits forecast will be published tomorrow to bolster its defence against the unwanted bid from Suter.

#### GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$382.25 pm \$382.30 close \$382.50-383 (\$271-271.50) New York (latest): \$382.75 Kruggerand (per coin): \$384.395-50 (\$279.25-280.25) Sovereigns: \$80.91 (\$65.75-64.25) Excludes VAT

### Recovery on disturbingly narrow base, says Gatt

By Frances Williams, Economic Correspondent

World trade grew by 2 per cent last year and is likely to exceed 5 per cent this year, Mr Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said yesterday.

But economic recovery, he said, was taking place on a disturbingly narrow base, with half of last year's trade growth being accounted for by increased exports to the United States.

"While this demonstrated very clearly the vital role of the US as the leader of the recovery, it is one of the factors behind the mounting trade deficit which magnifies the protectionist pressures to which the Administration is now being subjected", Mr Dunkel said.

These pressures were trying to push a bilateral approach to trade at the expense of the multilateral system, he said.

The GATT estimates of world trade growth, given by Mr Dunkel in a speech in the United States, correspond with those of the International



Gilbert O'Sullivan

### MAM acts to cut star's claim

By Andrew Cornallus

Management Agency and Music, the pop management and entertainment company, is to enlist the support of Mickie Most, a leading record producer, in an attempt to reduce its potential £3m liability to Gilbert O'Sullivan. The singer and composer, after a dispute over royalty payments.

The Court of Appeal has ruled that the dispute between MAM and Mr O'Sullivan, which involves payments dating back seven years, should be decided by one of the four Official Referees in Britain, who are appointed to arbitrate in complicated disputes.

The court has ruled that MAM has to pay Mr O'Sullivan all the money it has retained over the years from his recording and music publishing activities, less an allowance for management fees, expenses and reasonable profit to be decided by the Official Referee.

Mr Gordon Mills, chairman of MAM, said yesterday that he had no idea what figure would be finally agreed by the Official Referee, although he estimated the maximum liability to the company at £3m. He said the MAM would call upon expert witnesses, including Mr Most, to explain how the business differs from other businesses and to give some idea of the levels of profits, expenses and royalties charged by other management and recording companies.

Mr Mills said that he had received no indication of when the case will be heard by the Official Referee and that it is possible that no decision will be made for several years. For this reason, MAM has decided not to make a provision against the case until it has a better idea of the exact figures involved. But in a footnote to the company's latest accounts for 1983, the board suggests that the sum eventually payable will be substantially less than £3m.

Shareholders attending MAM's annual meeting in Hendon, North London, questioned a last minute provision of £3m against deferred taxation which was included in the company's accounts.

MAM said that the provision was necessary because of the changes announced in the Budget which reduced capital allowances on equipment.

## Skandia to take 29.9% of Goodison's broking firm

By William Kay, City Editor

Skandia, the Swedish insurance group, is to take a 29.9 per cent stake in Quilter Goodison, the London stock-broking firm headed by Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman.

This is the latest in the series of deals giving outsiders interests in stock market firms ahead of the planned abolition of fixed commission rates on securities transactions towards the end of next year.

However, Skandia is the first European concern to take a direct stake. Société Générale, the State-owned French bank, announced last month that it was to invest in an international dealing operation jointly with Hambros Bank and the stock-broker Strauss Turnbull.

Sir Nicholas said last night:

"We have known Skandia for about 12 years as clients of ours. We had other approaches, but it is easier to marry someone you have known for 12 years. We had a limited range of people in mind: we wanted an international house with international connections. We are not being swallowed up by a financial conglomerate. That was not our preferred option."

The investment is being devoted to injecting new capital into Quilter Goodison, but Sir Nicholas would not say how much. The 29.9 per cent is the maximum an outside party may hold in a stock market firm, although it is widely expected that this limit will be raised next year. Unlike other such deals, Skandia has not bought an option to increase its holding.

Quilter Goodison is a medium-to-large firm with 29 partners and 200 staff. On the basis of the previous deals, Skandia might be putting in between £5m and £10m.

However, such estimates may be drastically modified by the news yesterday that Barclays Bank is buying 29.9 per cent of Wedd Durlacher, one of the biggest stockbrokers, for only £6m. This was revealed by Sir Timothy Bevan, the chairman of Barclays, at the bank's yearly meeting in the City. He added that Barclays is lending Wedd another £2.9m.

On the face of it, this values Wedd Durlacher's equity at only £20m, compared with market estimates of more than £100m. But Barclays may have to pay a premium when it raises

its holding to 75 per cent, as it intends, or there may be future payments related to performance. Barclays is also to take 5 per cent of de Zoete and Bevan, the stockbroker, also rising later to 75 per cent.

The Skandia deal offers the possibility that Quilter Goodison may be able to reach new clients through the Swedish group's network of branch offices throughout Europe. The two organizations plan to start an international dealership concentrating on European securities by the end of this year. Skandia also has operations in the US.

Sir Nicholas pointed out that about half Quilter Goodison's business derives from institutional clients, both British and European.

### Sealink returns to £6.4m net profit

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Sealink, British Rail's cross-Channel ferry and harbour subsidiary, which is soon to be privatized, made a net profit of £6.4m last year after three years of losses.

Figures confirm that Sealink is ready to take its place in the private sector as a "commercially viable enterprise with a good future". Mr Michael Bosworth, the chairman, said in the report and accounts published yesterday.

Operating profit was up from £2.9m, to £12.6m and the net profit after interest, tax and a £2.4m extraordinary item represented a £12.8m improvement on 1982's net loss of £6.4m. Mr Bosworth says that

Sealink carried record numbers of passengers and freight vehicles on almost every route last year, despite a flat tourist market and intense competition in the freight business.

Sealink's shipping division made an operating surplus of £6.6m last year, against a £1m loss the year before, while its harbours made an operating profit of £6.2m in its first year of trading.

About a dozen firms including European Ferries, P&O, Trafalgar House, have expressed an interest in bidding for Sealink since British Rail said it was inviting offers last month. The Government's aim is to complete the sale by July.

### Taxmen switch sides to give firms advice

By Our City Staff

Two former tax inspectors and a former value-added tax fraud investigator have turned the tables on former colleagues by defending clients they would formerly have prosecuted.

Mrs Jill Tracey and Mr Peter Clare, who between them have 37 years' Inland Revenue service and Mr David Kelsey, 17 years with the Customs and Excise, are now a team giving tax and VAT advice to small and medium-sized businesses.

The team was formed by Mr Steven Manton, managing director of IRPC Legal and Personnel Insurance Services, a group which started offering a problem solving service on industrial relations and now offers advice on tax and VAT.

Mr Manton says: "There is a widespread feeling among members of the business community that in dealing with the

tax authorities the odds are stacked against them."

He says that last year 70,000 thorough investigations were handled by the Inland Revenue and 40,000 by the Customs and Excise.

IRPC offers a package of advice and insurance in an attempt to keep the tax bills down. Mr Manton says that since the scheme started the 15 settled cases by his team have saved £250,000 for clients in tax.

Insurance cover of up to £25,000 for professional fees, including those charged by IRPC, in the event of an in-depth revenue investigation is included in the price.

The cost of the package to self-employed people and those companies with 10 employees, is £201, rising to £431 for those employing up to 250 people.

### Midland's chairman under fire

By Jeremy Warner

Sir Donald Barron, chairman of Midland Bank, was severely criticized by the bank's shareholders yesterday for the disastrous performance of the American subsidiary, Crocker National Corp.

Crocker has already reported multi-million dollar losses and has undergone a managerial restructuring which continued on Tuesday with the resignation of the president of the banking subsidiary, Crocker National Bank.

Shareholders described Crocker as "a total disaster". A representative of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union demanded an assurance that the remuneration of staff and pensioners in Britain would not be undermined by the situation at Crocker.

Sir Donald said that the transfer from reserves to deal with deferred tax and the effect on profits of Crocker would reduce the bank's capital ratios, but that the ratios should remain at a level satisfactory to the Bank of England with the important free capital ratio above 4 per cent at the end of the year.

Shareholders were also given a strong hint that dividends would be maintained, despite the bank's problems. Sir Donald said: "We do not see any reason why current levels should not be maintained."

"Following the poor results for 1983, we gave our strong support and encouragement to the Crocker board to take steps to improve the management organization of the bank's operations. These measures had not had any time to have any effect in the first quarter of 1984 but we believe they will have an increasingly beneficial effect in the remainder of the year."

### The Times Budget briefing

The Times is organizing on May 22 a one-day briefing on the consequences for industry and for the personal investor of the far-reaching tax changes announced in the 1984 Budget.

The keynote speaker will be Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who has been closely involved with the Chancellor in the planning of his corporate and personal tax strategy.

Authoritative City specialists will analyse the implications of the Budget for the decisions that individuals and companies make on the raising and use of funds.

A series of sessions has been designed to explain what the tax changes really mean and how businessmen, corporate treasurers, institutional and private investors should respond to get the best out of the new opportunities created.

Detailed topics will include fund-raising by companies, new ways of paying employees and the options for private investors.

The conference as a whole is planned to concentrate on the practical issues involved in a wide range of post-Budget decisions that both companies and individuals will need to take in the new tax climate.

Details of the conference appear at the bottom of this page, with a coupon for those wishing to attend.

#### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1119.8 up 14.4 (day's high: 1121.0; low: 1112.4)  
FT Index: 887.6 up 11.4  
FT Gilt: 82.02 up 0.16  
FT All Share: 27.79 up 5.35  
Bargains: 20.074  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1158.71 down 4.19  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,886.34 up 104.32  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1082.72 up 12.70  
Amsterdam: 171.1 up 1.0

#### CURRENCIES

##### LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4115 up 1/4 cent  
Index 79.9 unchanged  
DM 3.7850 up 0.0075  
FF 11.81 up 0.0025  
Yen 218.75 up 0.75  
Dollar Index 128.8 unchanged  
DM 2.6810 unchanged  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.4125  
Dollar DM 2.6800  
ECU 20.591229  
SDR 20.744443

#### INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 8 1/2 %  
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2 %  
Discount market loans week fixed 8 1/2-9 %  
3 month interbank 8 1/4-8 1/2 %  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 10 1/4-11 %  
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2 %  
3 month FF 12-12 1/2 %  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 12.00  
Fed funds 10 %  
Treasury long bond 9 1/4-9 1/2 %

## The Times 1984 Budget Briefing

The Tax Strategy of the Budget  
Keynote address by John Moore MP  
Financial Secretary to the Treasury

The Government has produced a Budget which is forward looking and optimistic, designed to encourage business risk, investment and success. The Chancellor's corporate finance package, phasing out of first year capital allowances, tax concessions on executive share option schemes and other radical changes have far-reaching implications for firms and individuals. To help in making the right practical decisions in the new tax environment The Times has arranged a special conference where leading authorities will give detailed answers to three fundamental questions:

- How should funds be raised?
- Where should money be invested?
- How should income be received?

Chairman: Kenneth Fleet, Executive Editor, The Times

Panel: Tim Congdon Partner, L. Messel and Co.  
Trevor J. Swete Director, Hill Samuel & Co.  
John Carrell Tax Partner, Stephenson Harwood  
Ian E. Hayes National Tax Partner, Armitage & Norton  
Mark Powell Director, Laing & Cruickshank

The briefing will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London, on Tuesday 22nd May 1984, the cost being £250 plus VAT. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Those wishing to attend are invited to complete the application form below and send it, together with the fee, payable to: The Times 1984 Budget Briefing Limited, Hazlitt House, 28 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AR.

A VAT invoice and full particulars will be sent with admission cards.

### The Times 1984 Budget Briefing

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) at the above briefing at £250 plus £37.50 VAT per delegate, for the following:

Cheque enclosed £	
Please send seminar ticket(s) and VAT receipt/invoice to:	
Attention	
Position	Firm
Address	
	Postcode Telephone
Signature	Date

This summer's London Economic Summit, to be attended by leaders of the Western world, will be celebrated with a special 31p stamp to be issued on June 5.

Monetary Fund, which has predicted a 5.5 per cent expansion this year.

Barriers to remain, page 21

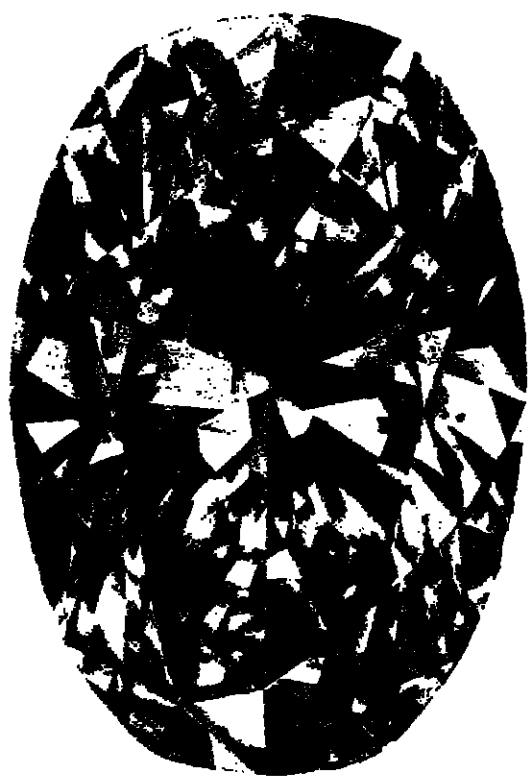


# De Beers

The year 1983 was considerably better than 1982. However, the early promise of a return to normal conditions which I reported in my last statement was not fully realised and the market for the larger, better quality stones remained weak throughout the year.

The book value of our diamond stocks increased by R421.6 million (of which R223.4 million was due to the change in the Rand/Dollar exchange rate) to a total of R2,253.9 million. Measured in United States Dollars, the currency of sale, the increase was \$163 million to a total of \$1,852.3 million.

De Beers' profits, including its share of the retained profits of associated companies — but before our R5.7 million share in the extraordinary profits of associates — were R530.2 million or 147.4 cents per share, that is 20 per cent more than the R442.5 million



Oval cut

earned the previous year. Excluding its share of the retained profits of associates, profits were R303.4 million or 84.3 cents per share compared with R202.5 million or 56.3 cents per share, an increase of 50 per cent. While the high level of stocks calls for a conservative distribution policy, in view of the substantially improved profits the Board decided that a small increase of 2.5 cents in the final dividend was justified, resulting in a total distribution of 40 cents per share against 37.5 cents in 1982.

#### Further signs of improving markets

Sales by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO) for the year at \$1,599 million were \$342 million or 27 per cent more than in 1982. Retail sales were also better than in either 1981 or 1982 and the Christmas trade in the United States was particularly good. The year 1984 has started well and there are now some signs of a shift in demand upwards from the small less expensive goods to medium quality diamonds. But while markets are generally better the demand for the large stones of good quality is nevertheless still restricted. Many of our customers suffered severe losses during the depression years and are naturally cautious about holding stocks of high quality goods, particularly at a time when real interest rates remain exceptionally high. Moreover the banks who were perhaps unduly ready to provide credit during the boom years are now being extremely careful in making advances. Stocks of diamonds in the cutting centres and bank indebtedness have been sharply reduced so that the trade is in a much better position from which it should be possible to expand the current level of business with safety.

#### The 50th anniversary for DTC

This year we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of The Diamond Producers Association and of The Diamond Trading Company. The organisation which was then created for the marketing of diamonds in a manner which would protect

#### Mr H. F. Oppenheimer's Statement for 1983

the interests of the whole industry has proved itself both in good times and bad. After the very severe test of the last few years the CSO finds itself in a strong position. There has never been a time during the period of more than fifty years that I have been in the diamond industry when the proportion of the total world rough diamond production marketed through the CSO was as high as it is today.

Our relations with the major producers outside the De Beers Group continue to be very good and it is generally appreciated that the willingness and ability of our organisation to hold large stocks through very difficult times has been and remains essential for the wellbeing of the whole industry. We are therefore in a good position to maintain a firm base for the rough diamond market while at the same time showing, to the extent compatible with our basic objective, flexibility in meeting the individual needs of our customers in order to help them to regain what has been lost and to move forward on a sound basis to a new level of prosperity.

#### Large stones — can only become rarer

The demand for the small, lower quality goods, is now at a high level and the trade as a whole can only be expanded through an increase in demand for larger sizes and better

therefore, can only become rarer and should increase in value. While the restricted demand for these qualities is an immediate and serious problem, it is one which,

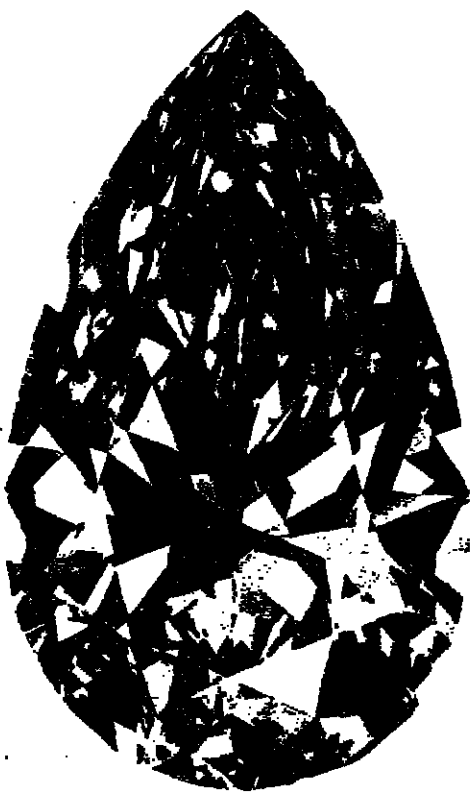


Brilliant cut

provided the CSO keeps a firm grip on the market in times such as we have been going through, is bound to solve itself. I am not, therefore, unduly concerned that De Beers should hold substantial stocks of these qualities and am indeed confident that, as

## Some of the ways we have shaped and strengthened the diamond industry.

qualities. This process has already begun but it will have to go much further before full prosperity can return to the industry. Our sales promotion this year will therefore give special emphasis to the upper end of the market. It is natural that this part of the trade should suffer more from the effects of general business recession and high interest rates than business in small sizes and lower



Pear cut

qualities, of which the greater part are used in the manufacture of comparatively inexpensive jewellery for which the market is naturally wider.

In the long run, however, there is good reason to have confidence in the attraction and value of the larger stones of high quality. While there have, in recent years, been a number of important new diamond discoveries, the great bulk of these new productions consists of below average quality stones. The production of the larger and more valuable diamonds comes mainly from the old established mines whose output is less than it was in the past and is continuing to decline. The large good quality diamonds,

has happened more than once in my experience, our present difficulties will eventually turn into important profit-making opportunities.

#### Industrial profits rise — in the face of strong competition

Conditions on the industrial side of the business improved considerably during 1983. This improvement was, however, concentrated in synthetics, though the volume of sales of natural industrial diamonds also increased. For the first time sales of synthetics exceeded \$100 million and the profitability of the Group's three diamond synthesis factories in South Africa, Ireland and Sweden, improved substantially. This was a considerable achievement since, in the face of strong competition, sales prices tended to decline over the years and the increased profits were attributable to the use of more economic synthesis processes and improved manpower utilisation.

The tendency for industrial demand to move increasingly to synthetics may become a problem when the large Argyle mine in Australia comes into full production, since this mine will be a particularly large producer of industrial qualities. It is an important task to work out plans to meet this marketing situation and the CSO is well placed to tackle it.

Diamond production from the mines of the Group, including Debbswana which is owned in equal partnership with the Government of Botswana, totalled 21,349,522 carats, compared with 17,399,815 carats in 1982. The main reason for the increase was that the first full year's production, amounting to 5,852,998 carats from the Jwaneng mine exceeded the 1982 production from this source by 3,231,355 carats. Operations at this highly important new mine are going exceptionally well, both in respect of grade and recovery, and a further increase in production is expected in 1984. Production from the Kimberley Division mines rose by 964,766 carats to 6,127,947 carats, owing to a substantial increase from the Finsch mine, offset, to some extent, by a small decrease

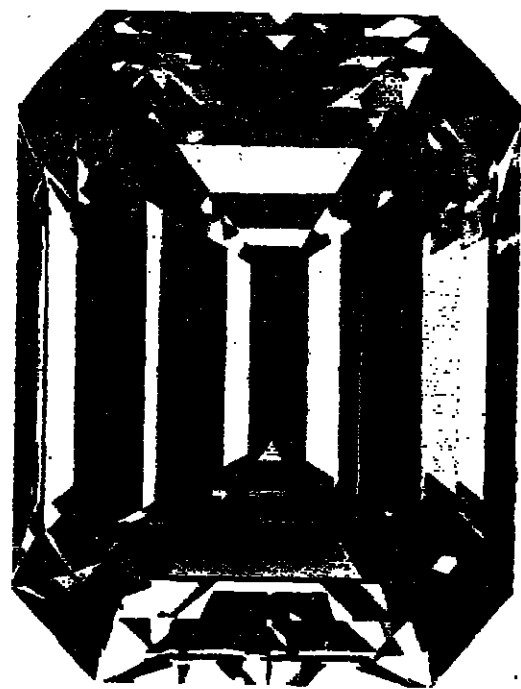
from the old Kimberley mines. At the other mines of the Group there was a small increase at the Premier mine and small decreases in Namaqualand, CDM and Orapa.

#### Prospecting continues

Expenditure by the Group on prospecting during the year was R41.4 million, a reduction of R1.8 million from last year. Work was continued in South and Central Africa, Australia and South America. It has unfortunately been found that the kimberlites on the farm Venetia in the Northern Transvaal, to which I referred in my last statement, are not viable in present economic circumstances. However, more work on these deposits is to be carried out.

Two prospecting concessions off the Namaqualand coast were granted to the Company during the year and preliminary investigation of these concessions is in progress. In South West Africa/Namibia intensive prospecting was continued with encouraging results along the north bank of the Orange River and in the old German mining areas south of Luderitz. Systematic sampling of the ocean floor off this coast was also continued. A special effort is being made in this whole area in the hope of being able to extend the life of the CDM deposits.

The Company, by contributions made to the Chairman's Fund for improved facilities for technical education and to the Urban Foundation, as well as through its own important training and development programmes for employees at all levels, is playing a significant part in improving the environment in which it works and in



Emerald cut

providing employment and advancement opportunities to men and women of all races on equal terms. All this is being done in accordance with a continuing long-term policy and I can report that highly satisfactory progress was made during the year.

The value of our investments outside the diamond trade at 31st December 1983 amounted to R3,278 million. Income from these investments in 1983 amounted to R161.7 million, an increase of R12.7 million over the previous year. It is interesting to note that this income was well in excess of the cost of our ordinary dividends for the year.

#### De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

For the full Report & Accounts for 1983 including the Chairman's Statement, please send this coupon to: The London Secretaries, Room 2, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**De Beers**  
The name that stands for diamonds



DATE: 11-11-68

The rest of the equity market responded well to the overnight rally on Wall Street with prices advancing across the board throughout the day. The FT Index closed 144.70 at 887.6, while the FT-SE 100 rose 14.4 to 1119.8.

been discussing these matters with its financial advisers, but cannot say whether any of the approaches will lead to an offer.

But the board gave a warning that the present market price of

● **FLEMING UNIVERSAL INVESTMENT TRUST:** Year to March 31, 1984. Total

estimates of the impact of deferred taxation. It will be difficult to slave off the requirement to make additional provisions, particularly

exercising the option. In 1990, Treasury 10½ per cent 1999, is nearly a full point lower, at 9.986 per cent than the long's actual return.

Sterling moved wider, fairly, back over 10 per cent in New York. So the dollar ended with a cent up against the dollar at a further gain of 12 points at the 1.4115, helped by a rise in the price of the Deutschmark at Medico's crude oil prices. The 1.6810.

Making an early start to relieve the tight situation, the authorities bought £307m of bills - but found difficulty in taking out the remainder of the so houses were able to make only limited progress. They opened with bids at 8½ per cent in the early stages, but swiftly moved up to 8⅞

And less chance of things going wrong.  
Contact  
**Christopher Laing**  
to find out more.

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World leaders prepare to meet in the face of rising protectionism

## Trade barriers will remain intact despite the London summit

There are more than 100 pieces of protectionist legislation pending in the United States Congress.

Europe and the United States are once again embroiled in a series of nasty skirmishes over trade in wine, corn, gluten, steel and the continued use of export subsidies. The "Japanese problem" has intensified on both sides of the Atlantic.

In the Third World among debt-ridden nations seeking to export their way to recovery, there is growing resentment over the wave of trade barriers erected or proposed by industrialized nations.

It is a list which demonstrates clearly the dilemma facing Western heads of state and their official "sherpas" now preparing for the annual economic summit. They must find a way to restore the international momentum against protectionism without promising too much.

Specifically they must decide whether to use the London summit to launch a new round of multilateral negotiations on the scale of the Kennedy and Tokyo rounds, to address the trade problems of the 1980s, or whether to settle for something less.

The spectre of the 1930s protectionist scramble which caused world trade to contract by an estimated 60 per cent remains in the minds of western officials, who have found it difficult to live up to their international commitments over the past year.

Increasingly, there is a feeling that something concrete must be done to recapture the postwar spirit of cooperation, if the global trading system is to operate effectively during the next few crucial years of expanding economic recovery.

In its newly-released world economic outlook, the International Monetary Fund predicted that the volume of world trade would rise by 3.5 per cent this year and again in 1985 after a sluggish rise of only 2 per cent in 1983 and an actual decline of 2.5 per cent in 1982.

But this will occur only if markets stay open, the IMF warned in a sharply-worded statement issued during the recent meeting of its policy-making interim committee in Washington. The statement expressed "profound concern

On June 7-9, President Reagan, Mrs Thatcher and the other heads of government of the seven big economies of the non-Communist industrial world will meet in London. They will be taking part in the tenth annual economic summit - a

series which began in 1975, when the shock of the first important postwar recession brought world leaders together to discuss ways of recapturing the miracle of economic growth. At that first summit, their main pledge was to avoid the

dangerous option of national trade barriers. Protectionism is still the most important issue before the summiters. In the first of our series on the agenda for the London summit, Bailey Morris reports on the worsening trade relations

or "Nics" are being pressed by industrialized nations to open up their markets to more consumer goods from the west. The continued use of export subsidies is certain to be on the agenda as is agriculture which, like the poor, and taxes, is always with us," said a European diplomat.

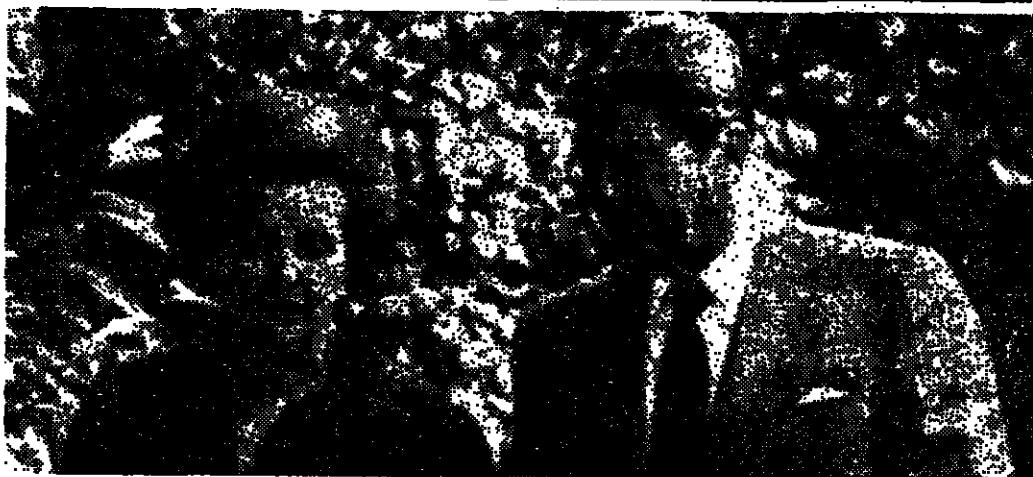
So much is obvious. The broader, more contentious issues covering trade in high technology and services are more difficult to quantify and coordinate. The US has been pressing for action in these two areas for years in the belief that they represent new trade frontiers which require a new, more comprehensive set of global rules.

High technology, for example, is a sector in which obsolescence is rapid and the cost of development is high. Does this mean that governments should, under certain controlled circumstances, be allowed to exchange information and protect nascent industries from foreign competition? What rules should apply to the commercial application of military and defence technology?

Should Europe, which is lagging behind in the technology race, be allowed to take measures which will give it time to catch up with Japan and the United States? At present, Europe has only 10 per cent of the world market in computers and only 40 per cent of its own market.

Services throw up equally difficult topics which rub against the grain of entrenched national policies. Much American and European dissatisfaction with Japan stems from its longstanding policy of restricting foreign investment and limiting sharply the international role of the Yen.

These and other investment restrictions (particularly in the newly industrialized Asian nations) which prevent the creation of world markets in banking, insurance, and related service industries need to be resolved. If the summit marks the beginning of what is bound to be a long, cumbersome process of dismantling barriers to invisible trade, it will contribute one small but important step back from protectionism.



Trading issues: Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan face tough decisions in June.

over the growth of protectionist practices".

Such policies "inhibit trade expansion, the adjustment efforts of both developed and developing countries, the control of inflation and the improvement of living standards worldwide," the IMF said.

But can they be avoided? Election-year pressures are strong in the US and Canada; nationalism is growing in Europe and Japan still seems reluctant to open its markets to foreign imports and investment.

Perhaps not. But they can at least be managed and controlled through a new set of rules based on current realities in the global market. Even this limited aim, however, may not be met at the London summit.

The consensus among American and European officials interviewed by *The Times* was that the most that can be expected is a new "directive from" western heads of state. Their governments will undertake to begin preparations for a new round of multilateral negotiations to be held perhaps in the spring of 1985, after the US presidential elections.

Heads of state are expected to stop short of launching a new

multilateral round for a variety of domestic, political and international reasons.

The United States, for example, faces a record trade deficit, forecast to reach \$120 billion in 1984. The Reagan administration does not want to commit itself to a liberalization of trade rules at a time when it is uncertain it can manage protectionist pressures at home. "We do not want to be in a position of having to eat our words," a senior US official said.

At present, six controversial import relief cases - called 201 cases - are pending and have been carefully timed to land on President Reagan's desk in October and November, only weeks before the general elections. A finding of injury by the US International Trade Administration in any or all of the cases covering steel, copper, footwear and tuna imports, among others, might require the President to take restrictive trade action which would adversely affect the European Community and other nations.

In Europe, despite growing support for a new multilateral trade round, officials also think it would be unwise to launch one too soon. According to one

EEC official: "The Kennedy round died because of lack of preparation". So, he argued, "before we start a new round we must have a good idea of what will be in it".

In addition, for multilateral negotiations to succeed, they must be supported by developing countries. These have on the whole resisted the proposal, believing they will be asked to "give up something" by the powerful rich nations.

All of which suggests that the London summit will produce little more than a weak, non-binding commitment to fight protectionism, of the sort which emerged from last year's Williamsburg summit.

This degree of failure can be avoided, officials believe, if the summit launches substantive work on the type and scope of issues to be discussed in a new global round and indicates some sort of timetable.

Already, much work has been done in the OECD and the GATT on the types of issues which must be covered. In the area of tariffs, for example, the rich nations are being pressed to give more relief and trade access to the poorest countries. The newly industrialized countries

## Working week down to 39 hours

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Only a fifth of all manual workers still have a basic working week of 40 hours or more and 95 per cent are entitled to four weeks or more paid holiday, according to an analysis of national wage agreements last year.

The analysis, published in the April issue of the *Employment*

Department's *Gazette*, says that by the end of 1983 the move away from the basic 40-hour week was largely complete. Basic hours averaged 39.2 compared with 40 in 1978.

Average basic holiday entitlements had risen to 21.75 days by late 1983 and nearly a fifth of the 11 million workers covered

by national agreements had five weeks or more paid holiday.

Days lost through strikes rose sharply in March to 1,903,000, with the miners' strike accounting for about 80 per cent of the total.

In the first quarter of the year strikes have cost industry 2.6 million days lost.

## ESTATES AND GENERAL INVESTMENTS P.L.C.

Property Investment and Development

### RECORD PROFIT FOR 1983

- \* Record profit of £1.1m before taxation
- \* Gross Investment rental now exceeds £2m - up 15%
- \* Net Investment rental increased by 17%
- \* Dividend increased by 10.5% to 2.1p
- \* Eighth consecutive increase in dividend which has trebled in that time
- \* Net assets per ordinary stock unit increased to 122p

Copies of the annual report available from the Secretary,  
51 Green Street, Mayfair, London W1Y 3RH

## McKechnie Brothers

As anticipated, profits in each of our three main geographical areas of operation have improved compared with the corresponding period last year giving an increase in profit before tax of nearly a quarter. In the UK rationalisation of our brass rod business is proceeding as planned following the acquisition of IMI Rod & Wire and the results from our plastic and consumer interests - which continue to grow in relative importance - have encouraged us to support further heavy capital expenditure. Overseas we have seen greater stability in our South African operations and we have benefited from some improvement in demand in both Australia and New Zealand.

At the present time we expect to maintain similar progress in our second half-year.

Dr. J. M. Butler, Chairman

Interim Results - unaudited	Half-year ended 31st January		Year ended 31st July
	1984	1983	1983
Turnover	£'000	£'000	£'000
Operating Profit	97,179	75,129	158,108
Share of Profits of Associates	6,018	5,005	10,377
Net Profit	2,101	1,955	3,419
Extraordinary items	4,251	3,763	6,555
Ordinary Dividend	1,203	997	4,163
Earnings per Ordinary Share	7.1p	7.5p	13.6p

Note - Interim dividend of 2.00p (1983 2.00p) per Ordinary Share making a gross equivalent of 2.85714p (1983 2.85714p).

McKechnie Brothers plc ALDRIDGE, WALSALL WS9 8DS

## Manufacturing base 'vital for services'

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of Drake & Scull engineering group, hit out yesterday at the growing suggestion that service industries would replace much of the nation's traditional manufacturing base.

Speaking at the launch of a national engineering marketing award scheme, Sir Monty said the country must recognize the fact that it was the success of manufactured goods that generated the service industries.

Of the 45 per cent of food and most raw materials that Britain imports, three-quarters were paid for by the sale of manufactured products and 25 per cent by the earnings of

services. That meant that every one per cent of manufacturing lost could only be replaced by a three per cent increase in the service sector.

The new awards, sponsored jointly by the National Westminster Bank and British Airways, have been introduced by Engineering Industries Association by giving public recognition particularly to small engineering companies which have excelled in their marketing efforts.

The first awards will be made in November following adjudication of entries by a panel of judges under the chairmanship of Major-General Desmond Smith, chairman of the national engineering marketing committee.

The awards comprise three trophies for small, medium and large companies plus a free round trip in concord.

Sir Monty said that the committee of inquiry into the engineering profession which he headed four years ago had without dissent declared that the "future of the British economy and the living standards of its population depended on being able to beat international competition for its manufactured goods."

Producing high quality, high added value goods using the best technology was one aspect of the engineering dimension identified by the committee; the other was marketing.

The EIA, 40 per cent of whose 3,000 members employ under 20 workers, has organized 124 trade missions around the world resulting in £1.8 billion of orders for Britain.

### Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8 1/4%
Barclays	8 1/4%
BCCI	8 1/4%
Citibank Savings	9 1/4%
Comptoir d'Escompte	8 1/4%
Continental Trust	8 1/4%
C. Hoare & Co	8 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	8 1/4%
Midland Bank	8 1/4%
Nat Westminster	8 1/4%
TSB	8 1/4%
Williams & Glyn's	8 1/4%

1 Mortgage Base Rate  
\* 7 day deposits are terms of tender  
£10,000, 9 1/4%, £10,000 up to  
£50,000, 9 1/2%, £50,000 and  
over 7 1/2%.

### SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the 170th Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at the Head Office, 15 Dalrymple Road, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 1st day of May 1984 at 2.30 pm for the following purposes:

To consider the accounts and balance sheet for the year ended 31st December 1983 and the Report of the Directors and Auditors.  
To elect Directors.  
To reappoint Auditors.  
To fix the remuneration of Directors.  
To pass, if thought fit, the following Resolution recommended to the Members by the Directors:

"That the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year be paid by the Directors of the Society."

To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.  
Forms of Proxy for the above may be obtained on application to the undersigned. To be effective, proxies must reach the Society's Head Office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the meeting.

C.M. CAVAYE  
General Manager and Attorney  
15 Dalrymple Road, Edinburgh  
ED15 5BU  
3rd April 1984

NOTE: A copy of the Report will be sent on request to any member who would like to have one.



### Scottish Life Investments INSURANCE FUNDS

	RM	Other
Net Managed Property	98.7	104.0
UK Equity	101.0	106.4
American	99.7	105.0
European	102.2	108.8
International	98.7	104.0
Fixed Interest	100.8	106.2
Index Linked	97.7	103.8
Deposits	99.8	100.8
Cash	84.4	84.4
Per Managed Property	95.8	104.9
Per UK Equity	102.4	107.9
Per American	99.7	105.0
Per European	104.8	110.4
Per International	99.5	104.9
Per Fixed Interest	100.0	107.5
Per Index Link	98.3	102.5
Per Deposits	96.2	101.4

Scottish Life  
19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh  
Telephone: 031-225 2211

## Hoechst



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 10 a.m., on Tuesday, 5th June 1984,

at the Jahrhunderthalle in Frankfurt am Main-Höchst, Pfaffenwiese.

### Agenda

1. Presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts of Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft for 1983, with the Report of the Supervisory Board, and the Consolidated Report and Accounts for 1983.
2. Allocation of the profit available for dividend. It is proposed to pay a dividend of DM 7.- per share of DM 50.- nominal for the financial year 1983.
3. Ratification of the actions of the Board of Management for 1983.
4. Ratification of the actions of the Supervisory Board for 1983.
5. Resolution that the Board of Management be authorised until 4th June 1989, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, to increase the share capital by up to DM 200 million by the issue of new shares against contributions in cash, and to decide on the exclusion of the subscription right of shareholders in specific cases.
6. Approval of the integration of Ruhrchemie AG, Oberhausen, into Hoechst AG, Frankfurt am Main, in accordance with § 319 of the German Stock Corporation Law.
7. Election of auditors for the financial year 1984.

The full agenda, including the proposed resolutions, is contained in the Bundesanzeiger no. 79 of 25th April, 1984.

Shareholders wishing to be present and to vote at the Meeting must comply with Article 14 of the Articles of Association and deposit their share certificates during usual business hours by Friday, 1st June 1984, at the latest until after the Meeting, at one of the depositaries listed in the Bundesanzeiger no. 79 of 25th April 1984, or in the United Kingdom, at the offices of

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.  
30, Gresham Street  
London EC2P 2EB

Frankfurt am Main, April 1984

Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft



## Ash & Lacy

Year of continued investment - profits, dividend & earnings up

To keep each of our companies in the lead in its own technology we have invested £2.8 million in 1983. This was in addition to £2.9 million invested in 1982.

	Sales	Profit before tax	Dividend	Earnings per share
1982	£27.1m	£3.1m	18.0p	52.3p
1983	£27.6m	£3.4m	20.0p	56.3p

Galvanizers & manufacturers of perforated metal & steel cladding.  
SMETHWICK WARLEY WEST MIDLANDS

## MARLEY

### Salient Figures

	Year ended 31 December 1983 £'000	Year ended 31 December 1982 £'000
Turnover	500.9	422.5
Operating Profit	38.8	24.7
Profit before tax	28.2	12.1
Earnings per share	8-9p	2-0p
Dividend per share	3-2p	2-5p

At the A.G.M. on 25th April, the Chairman, Mr. J.E. Aisher, highlighted:

- ★ Overseas subsidiaries' first half-year performance better than 1983.
- ★ First quarter comparative U.K. roof tile volumes up 16%.
- ★ Recent Budget likely to benefit Marley.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts and the Diamond Jubilee Brochure are obtainable from The Secretary, Marley plc, Riverhead, Sevenoaks, Kent.









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CRICKET: FINE PROSPECT MARRED BY DULL PLAY AS SEASON OPENS AT LORD'S

Terry at his festive best

By Marcus Williams

FENNER'S Cambridge University, with nine first innings wickets in hand, are 412 runs behind Hampshire.

"Cricket Festival" the road signs into Cambridge said yesterday and although they pointed to a match for Ian Botham's benefit year on another ground, Hampshire batsmen clearly took them to refer to Fenner's.

On another perfect day - for all except the University bowlers, that is - and on a typically gentle pitch Hampshire rattled up 448 runs shortly before tea. In the last 35 minutes Cambridge lost the wicket of Lea but Andrew, who had earlier shone in the field, gave hope for today.

Jesty, who made the season's first double century, and Terry both achieved the highest innings of their careers. Together they put on 302 in just over three hours for the second wicket after Terry had been bowled in the fifth over, and missed the fun.

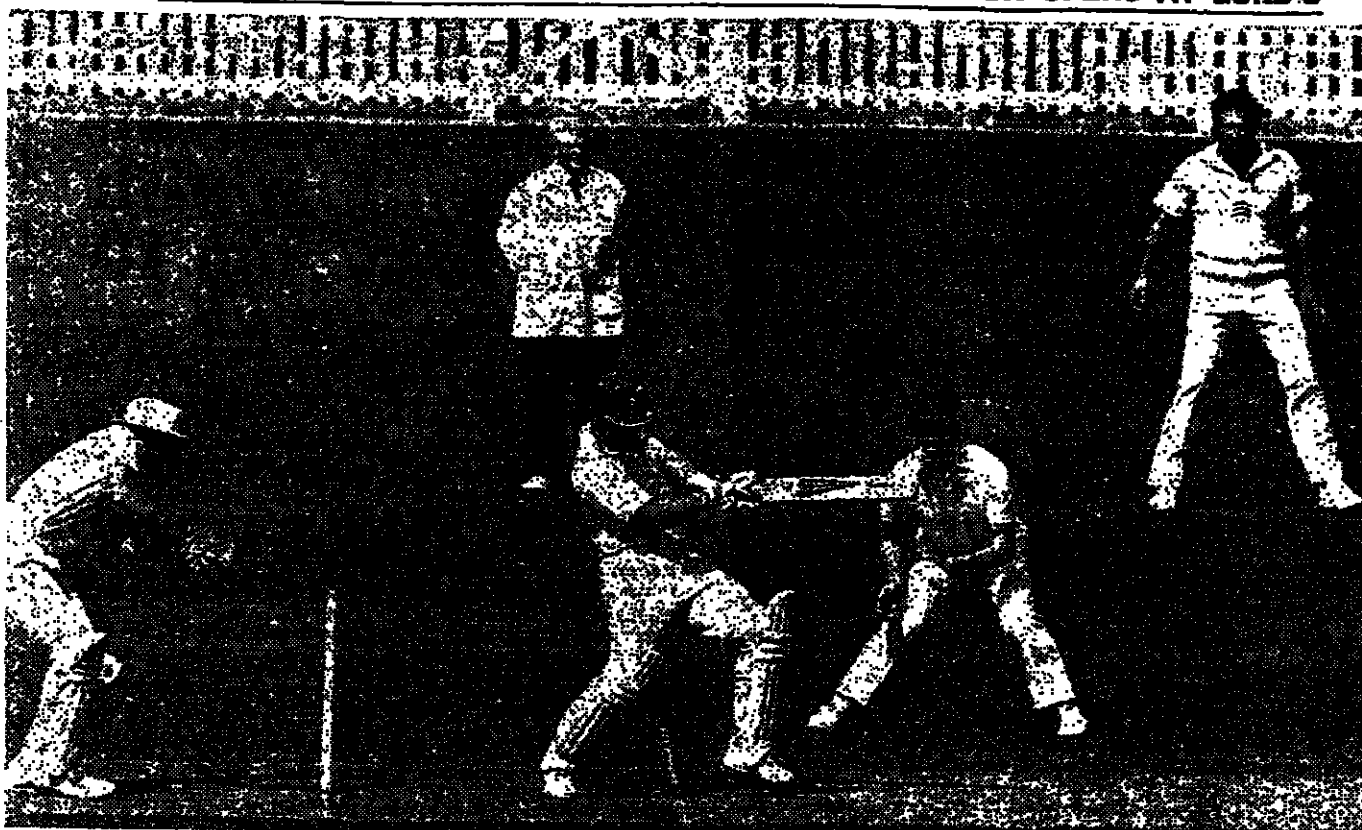
Terry scored three centuries last season at an average of more than 45 and he looked a fine prospect again yesterday, turning the ball superbly on both sides of the wicket in his 199-minute stay. He hit 23 fours and two sixes, and perished at mid-wicket on attempting a third.

**HAMPSHIRE First Innings**  
V P Tennyson & Co. 137  
D R Turner & Co. 8  
T E Jesty not out 248  
N E P. P. not out 20  
Extras (b 6, lb 7, n-b 7) 20  
Total (3 wickets) 283

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-18, 2-320, 3-448.  
BOWLING: Gankel 18.3-37.2; Gankel 12-1-1.6; Andrew 8-2-6.2; Gankel 25-5-120.4.

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY First Innings**  
C R Andrew not out 11  
A E Jesty not out 0  
A R Gankel not out 6  
Extras (b 1, n-b 4) 5  
Total (1 wicket) 22

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-35.  
Umpires: B Dudson and R Allen.



Into his stride: Chris Smith opens the season and MCC batting at Lord's. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Bright first, cloudy later

By John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: MCC have scored 235 for six against Essex.

Oh, dear! The weather for the start of the Lord's season was more beautiful than any words. The ground was a picture, the crowd larger than for many years on the opening day. Two interesting sides were assembled, and yet between them was given quite a welcome by the players. By close of play, MCC had scored 235 for six at 2.5 runs an over.

The players were only partly to blame. The modern game, and the pitch, had at least as much to do with it. Off a thickish mat of grass, the ball, at any rate to start with, moved all over the place, sometimes pitching on the leg stump, and veering sharply towards first slip's right hand. For much of the day, the batsmen were too concerned with survival to turn to attack.

Not since the day My Fair Lady opened in London, in the late fifties, could anyone remember a season being given quite such a welcome by the sun. Yet had the faster Essex bowlers brought the batsmen forward early in the day, which unfortunately they failed to do, MCC must have been in all kinds of trouble. When, for an hour in the afternoon, Lever came back and pitched the ball up, an opening partnership of 103 between Smith and Lloyd was put into perspective.

Lloyd, of Warwickshire, is a left-handed accumulator. There is not much of him, but he grafts away, and

nudging and deflecting and getting into line. His 60 was full of merit. Smith spent three hours 25 minutes making 43. He was determined and boring. The selectors will be looking for a sheet anchor, as he knows well enough. And it is a role that suits him.

The most agreeable innings came from Mark Nicholas. Having seen, in quick succession, Smith caught at second slip, and Gower in the covers, and Gattling at the wicket, Nicholas played patiently and pretty straight, going not halfway forward, but all the way when the ball was up to him. He alone of all the batsmen ever looked as though he was "in".

Cowdrey and Williams both battled along for a while. Cowdrey until he was caught at slip off a ball which lifted more than he may have expected, and Williams until he allowed himself to be bowled without playing a stroke.

When Williams was out with half an hour left, I rather hoped Gower might declare. We had seen enough by then of MCC's batting; the game was far enough behind the clock. A change of scene would have helped.

But the day ended as it was mostly played, with medium pace at both ends, and the ball coming through at uneven heights, and still not a cloud in the sky.

Had it been a championship match we would have had to have another 25 overs. Yesterday, in six hours, 92 were bowled. In the championship this season, there will need to be a minimum of 117 in the day. One way and another, I am not sure those who made the annual

pilgrimage got their money's worth, though they would have minded more if it had been shivering cold.

**MCC's First Innings**  
T A Lloyd & Co. 69  
C L Smith & Co. 43  
D J Gower & Co. 14  
M W Gattling & Co. 2  
C S Cowdrey & Co. 14  
G G Williams & Co. 26  
VP R. Dudson not out 5  
Extras (b 1, lb 8, n-b 2) 11  
Total (1 wicket) 235

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-103, 2-120, 3-128, 4-130, 5-166, 6-217.

**BOWLING:** G. A. Gough, 9.4-20.4; K. W. Pritchard, 8.5-20.4; B. R. Harde, 8.5-20.4; S. Turner, 10.5-20.4; N. A. Foster, 1.1-1.1.

Umpires: B J Meyer and D R Shepherd.

Britannic reward the counties

Outstanding performances in the county championship are to be rewarded in a £6,000 scheme announced yesterday by Britannic Assurance. The company, who have taken over sponsorship of the championship from Schweppes, are to give a monthly award of £250 to the outstanding performance by an individual. Five judges will nominate a Player of the Season, who receives £500. In addition there will be £750 available to the county of the month. Britannic will also donate £100 towards equipment for a local school or junior cricket side nominated by each county of the month.

**GLAMORGAN First Innings**  
J A Hopkins & Co. 2  
A L Jones & Co. 150  
R C Cheung & Co. 150  
S P Henderson & Co. 4  
D A Francis & Co. 150  
T D Davis & Co. 150  
J G Thomas & Co. 150  
W W Bailey & Co. 150  
Extras (b 2, lb 3, n-b 2) 301

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-13, 2-78, 3-121, 4-150, 5-150, 6-150.

**BOWLING:** Thomas 37-2-81-4; Turnbull 11-3-35-1; Hayes 8-2-6-0; Rawlinson 17-5-55-1; Toogood 1-1-0-0.

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY First Innings**  
A J T. Miller & Co. 2  
R M. Edhouse not out 2  
Extras (b 1, n-b 1) 2

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-12.  
Umpires: A. J. Jenson and J. J. Jenson.

**Sussex are to give a trial to 19-year-old fast bowler Michael Bruce, from London. Bruce will play in a 50-over practice match at Hove, alongside Clive Batchelor, another fast-bowling trialist, from Bournemouth.**

Frost over Denmark

Kuala Lumpur (AFP) - Morten Frost, the All-England badminton champion, will lead Denmark's men's team in the Thomas Cup here, while Kirsten Larsen leads the country's women's team in the Uber Cup from May 7 to 18. Denmark have been drawn in a group with the champions, China, in the Thomas Cup.

S Koreans for Cuba

Seoul (AP) - South Korean women athletes have been issued with entry visas by Cuba for the first time for a 19-nation basketball tournament in Havana, beginning on May 4.

Younis quickly into his stride

By Richard Streeton

THE PARKS: Oxford University, with 9 first innings wickets in hand, are 268 runs behind Glamorgan.

Forceful batting by Younis Ahmed, on his first appearance for Glamorgan, yesterday bolstered an otherwise uneven performance by the county. He made a chancesome 138 out of 223, added in a shade under four hours.

There can be few better places in the present sunshine to have a working day prolonged unexpectedly: the play was put back half an hour, as Glamorgan travelled after breakfast, Oxford were without Carr (knee injury), and Hayes, the captain, retired in the afternoon with a pulled hamstring.

The depleted university bowlers, though, had every reason to be pleased. On a perfect pitch and fast air, Younis dominated the outstanding performance by an individual. Five judges will nominate a Player of the Season, who receives £500. In addition there will be £750 available to the county of the month. Britannic will also donate £100 towards equipment for a local school or junior cricket side nominated by each county of the month.

Otherwise, only Jones and more dourly, Steele, stayed for any length of time (Jones, for the first time in 11 years as a county player, no longer needs the prefix Alan Lewis, now that Alan Jones has finally retired). Jones looked in good working order, before a mistimed drive went straight to mid-off.

Hopkins was beaten by a breakthrough, and Ontong was caught one-handed down the leg side by Cullinan, from a glance. Glamorgan's troubles continued, when Henderson was beaten through the air by Lawrence, a slow left-arm spinner, and Francis turned a catch to backward square leg.

**GLAMORGAN First Innings**  
J A Hopkins & Co. 2  
A L Jones & Co. 150  
R C Cheung & Co. 150  
S P Henderson & Co. 4  
D A Francis & Co. 150  
T D Davis & Co. 150  
J G Thomas & Co. 150  
W W Bailey & Co. 150  
Extras (b 2, lb 3, n-b 2) 301

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-13, 2-78, 3-121, 4-150, 5-150, 6-150.

**BOWLING:** Thomas 37-2-81-4; Turnbull 11-3-35-1; Hayes 8-2-6-0; Rawlinson 17-5-55-1; Toogood 1-1-0-0.

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More cricket, page 26

ATHLETICS

Miss Budd offered olive branch by laurelled Olympians

By Pat Batchelor

Zola Budd may be a long way from an Olympic laurel leaf but she got her first olive branch yesterday, from Derek Johnson, a former British Olympic medal winner, who has appealed to British athletes "to extend the hand of friendship and the dignity of non-discrimination" to Miss Budd.

Johnson, who won the 800 metres silver medal at the Melbourne Olympics in 1956, has the backing of David Hemery and David Bedford, two of Britain's most famous Olympians and world record holders.

All three are former chairmen of the International Athletic Club, the organization of current and past British internationalists, who have a strong influence on British athletics policy. However, their views run counter to the official IAC statement, made last week by Mike Winch, the treasurer, who supported the British female middle-distance runners against the inclusion of Miss Budd as potential Olympic selection.

Johnson admits that it is a personal view, "which has taken some time to reach", but he hopes that with the backing of Hemery,

Bedford and Paul Dickenson, the IAC chairman, most British athletes, "especially black", will react favourably.

Johnson has extended a public invitation to Miss Budd, her family and coach "to meet us shortly to explore ways in which we personally can assist her."

"She had an unchallengeable right to British citizenship and it is our good fortune and privilege that she chose to take it up. Had she stayed in South Africa and broken world record after world record she would surely have been a potent weapon of public sympathy and exploitation in the hands of that country's rulers. This has now been denied them and every appearance she makes on a track in future will be a living and constant rebuke to their society."

This is an astute move by Johnson, who has impeccable credentials on anti-apartheid. Sam Ramsamy, the head of SANROC - who are opposed to Miss Budd's convenient change of nationality from South African to British - readily admitted this yesterday.

"But I think the statement is premature," Mr Ramsamy said.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Soviet pleas heeded

Moscow (AP) - The Soviet news agency Tass said yesterday that "several fundamental issues were resolved" at a meeting of United States and Soviet Olympic Committee officials about the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

In a report from Lausanne, Tass said that Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles Olympics Organizing Committee, and the Soviet Olympics Committee chairman, Mari Gramov, had discussed Soviet allegations of US Olympic Charter violations.

The issues resolved related to the visa-free entry to the United States by Games participants and accredited journalists to all competition and training sites' accommodation and other facilities during the Games.

Tass also reported that Soviet representatives at the meeting had demanded that the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee for steps to ensure the safety of Olympic athletes and that this

matter should be handled at Government level.

The Tass report did not provide any assurance that the Soviet Union would participate in the Games. But it appeared to indicate that, except for the question of the security of Soviet athletes, most of the Kremlin's objections to the US handling of the Olympics had been resolved.

Tass said Gramov had called the meeting "a great step forward in removing the undesirable overlaps that emerged recently around the Los Angeles Games."

Tass added that a communiqué acknowledged that Soviet demands for going to the Los Angeles Games were legitimate.

IN BRIEF

**ATHLETICS:** Joan Benoit, the world's fastest woman marathon runner, is to have arthroscopic surgery on her right knee which may force her to miss the United States Olympic trial on May 12. The first three finishers will be selected for Los Angeles and Miss Benoit's only alternative would be to try for a place in the 3,000 metres.

**GYMNASTICS:** Soviet Gymnasts, visiting China for the first time in 25 years, shared the honour with hosts at the conclusion of the three-day Peking international tournament on Tuesday night. The outstanding Soviet team member was Yuriy Sedykh, who took gold medals in the men's rings, parallel bars and horizontal bar.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds				Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Address	Phone	Telex	Unit Name	Address	Phone	Telex
1. ABC Insurance Co.	123 Main St.	01234	12345	11. XYZ Insurance Co.	456 Main St.	01234	12345
2. DEF Insurance Co.	789 Main St.	01234	12345	12. ABC Insurance Co.	789 Main St.	01234	12345
3. GHI Insurance Co.	101 Main St.	01234	12345	13. DEF Insurance Co.	101 Main St.	01234	12345
4. JKL Insurance Co.	202 Main St.	01234	12345	14. GHI Insurance Co.	202 Main St.	01234	12345
5. MNO Insurance Co.	303 Main St.	01234	12345	15. JKL Insurance Co.	303 Main St.	01234	12345
6. PQR Insurance Co.	404 Main St.	01234	12345	16. MNO Insurance Co.	404 Main St.	01234	12345
7. STU Insurance Co.	505 Main St.	01234	12345	17. PQR Insurance Co.	505 Main St.	01234	12345
8. VWX Insurance Co.	606 Main St.	01234	12345	18. STU Insurance Co.	606 Main St.	01234	12345
9. YZA Insurance Co.	707 Main St.	01234	12345	19. VWX Insurance Co.	707 Main St.	01234	12345
10. BCD Insurance Co.	808 Main St.	01234	12345	20. YZA Insurance Co.	808 Main St.	01234	12345







# Carson bounces back with double

By John Karter

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## Midland outsiders decide to make the best of it

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

While Bristol and Bath contest the final of the John Player Cup at Twickenham on Saturday, two former winners of the knockout competition will meet at Golding Road, where Bedford entertain Coventry in their final match of the season. Bedford were due to play Bath and Coventry to play Bristol; with the two West country clubs reaching the cup final, the Midlands pair came to the logical conclusion that they should meet each other, albeit for the third time this season. Coventry having won both games by a narrow margin.

Both clubs are in the throes of electing a new captain: the Bedford players met last night and it is expected that Peck, the present captain and scrum half, will be confirmed for another year. Coventry's players met tonight to consider three nominees as successor to Thomas, who stands down after two years.

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## Dickinson bids an early farewell to National Hunt

By Michael Dickinson

Michael Dickinson, champion trainer for the past two seasons and leading trainer this term, is retiring from National Hunt racing at the end of the season to prepare for his new job as private flat trainer for Robert Sangster.

When news broke last November of his decision to team up with Mr Sangster, Dickinson announced that he would be carrying on training jumpers at Harwood until the end of the 1985 season. But he has now decided to leave National Hunt racing a year earlier than scheduled. He moves south this summer to give himself more time and opportunity to plan for his challenging new job.

The former jockey and past Champion amateur, aged 34, said: "I have come to realise that with all the responsibilities of my new job it will become increasingly difficult for me to train National Hunt horses, and at the same time try to prepare for my new career."

He added: "I would like to familiarise myself with the flat industry and the people involved in it, to assist with the transformation from jump trainer to flat trainer. Of course, I have respects for the training of my jumpers, but I'm looking forward to my new job. British flat racing is probably the most competitive in the world, and it will be a big test for me."

Although Dickinson's move has been brought forward a year, he will still wait until 1986 before he saddles his first runners on the flat.

Dickinson said: "There is a lot of work to be done for the future. I will be going round all the yearling sales this coming autumn with Pat Hogan, Mr Sangster's main buyer, to broaden my knowledge."

Dickinson will assemble his first crop of yearlings the following autumn, and expects to have a team of 70, the majority home-bred. Where his stables will be is still not entirely clear, but it is believed that Dickinson will move into the Manton Yard, formerly occupied by the late George Todd.

Since the young trainer took over the license from his father, Tony, at Poplar Stables in 1980, he has been successful at Harwood, the most memorable being his grand slam in the 1983 Cheltenham Gold Cup, in which he saddled the first five home.

Three winners on Easter Monday took his tally in four seasons to well over £1m. Those victories have included three King George VI races, two Cheltenham Gold Cups, and three Queen Mother Champion Chase triumphs, in addition to 12 winners in a single afternoon on Boxing Day, 1982.

Dickinson said: "My parents are going to carry on at Harwood with a reduced string although it has not yet been decided whether mum or dad will hold the licence."

Vanishing Trick was noted finishing well to take fifth place.

The first qualifying round of the Pontefract Mile Championship Race, an open affair, Berty Hawk chased home Cress-An-Sgar at York last July, however Bill Eley's High Top colt was a disappointing favourite when only fourth behind Berty Hawk at Nottingham. Well Ripped and Asculapulus both have to be considered, but the choice is incisive, who was only beaten a head by Tappin Wood on his reappearance at Beverley.

Matt McCracken appears to be in with a sound chance of landing a double on the South Yorkshire track with Taffy Jones and Al-Astakza. Taffy Jones incurred a 4lb penalty for beating The Friend by two lengths at Brighton. He should have more to fear from Wild Rush and Frass in the Barbican Handicap Stakes. The lightly rated Al-Astakza performed with credit when fourth to Trwyn Clai at Folkestone.

At Newmarket last week Ashley Rocket gave conclusive evidence that he is still on the upgrade when coming home second to finish second to Native Chatter. Reg Hollinshead considers the winner to be one of the best handicapped horses in training. That was Ashley Rocket's first appearance in public since last May and he can be expected to show improvement on that form.

Sully's Choice, Vanishing Trick and Go Bananas are others to be considered. Sully's Choice ran with credit when second to Meeson King in a similar race at Thirsk when



Great Western edges ahead of the noseband At Talaq in the Warren Stakes at Epsom yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Cole).

whip, straightened his mount and pushed Great Western gently ahead with hands and heels in the last 100 yards. It was an object lesson for any young rider about to tackle the notorious Surrey switchback.

Great Western, whose victory paid a compliment to the form of the William Hill Futurity in which he was sixth to Alphabeta, is not entered in the Derby, but could be chasing fire in the Italian equivalent. Before that the Chester Vase is the target for Great Western, who stays remarkably for a son of Hitite Glory.

Yves Saint-Martin was his 3,000th race when he partnered Bruce McNall's Somjam Gold to victory in the Prix Flying Fox at Saint-Cloud yesterday. The 15-year-old French champion jockey said of his historic victory: "I am feeling great and intend to be in the saddle for many more years."

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GOLF: MADRID OPEN WELCOMES BACK A LOCAL HERO

# Ballesteros seeks relief in sweet homecoming

From Mitchell Platts Madrid

Severiano Ballesteros's homecoming was complete when he was greeted on the practice putting green of the Puerta de Hierro course here yesterday by his World Cup-winning compatriots, Manuel Piñero and Antonio Garrido.

In the Spanish sunshine he finally looked at peace with himself, following his unhappy defence of the US Masters, and with every back slap and handshake he became more relaxed.

After the loneliness of his life on the US tour the Madrid Open, which starts today will come as a relief. Some officials here believe that the former Open champion now has a psychological barrier to overcome and that he now regards this tournament as an opportunity to bury the disappointments of this year.

Ballesteros said: "I need to play. I have completed only three tournaments this year. It is better for me to be here than to have stayed for another week at home before returning to America."

A small matter of his appearance money, which, it is understood, totals more than the £13,333 first prize, might also have been responsible for convincing Ballesteros to leave his farmhouse home in northern Spain. Yet he is well aware that he needs a win rather than the money.

What Ballesteros now seems to have learned is the difference



Ballesteros: psychological barrier

between playing for an extended period on the US circuit compared with making the one or two tournaments raids which have been his style in recent years. So when he flies out for the Tournament of Champions next week he will take with him his cousin Severiano as a travelling companion for the two months in America.

Meanwhile he is not short of support in the Spanish capital.

Sam Torrance, who won the Tunisian Open two weeks ago, might prove to be his strongest rival since Sandy Lyle has refused to defend the title. Lyle faces the possibility of a fine and the FGA European tour will also consider introducing a new rule stipulating that a player must defend a victory unless there are extenuating circumstances.

## CRICKET

## Warwickshire add to bowling strength

County prospects by Richard Streeton

By moving up to fifth place in the championship table last year, after finishing bottom in the two previous seasons, Warwickshire set themselves new standards to maintain in 1984. The arrival of Gifford and Old, who shared 77 years and 160 wickets between them, explained the improvement. Reinforced this year by Gladstone Smith's bowling, Warwickshire look equipped to excel in any of the competitions.

It will be necessary for Gifford, who finished with 104 wickets in all first-class games, and who is now aged 44, to defy the years and, but with his economical action, there should not be any drastic falling



Gifford: must defy years

## Help for Minor Counties

Sponsorship deals were announced yesterday which will benefit Minor Counties cricket by £25,000 and support the England women's team for the summer series against New Zealand.

English Estates will put £15,000 into the Minor Counties knockout competition, of which Cheshire are the holders, and the final will be at Fenner's on July 15. United Friendly Insurance have put up £20,000 for the championship which was last year by Hertfordshire. Split into two divisions, the winner of each will meet in the final at Worcester on September 8.

The England women's team had volunteered to pay their own expenses but have now been spared

the cost since St George Assurance have guaranteed them £10,000. The St George Assurance Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the three-day matches at Hastings, Worcester and Canterbury. The teams will play for the St George Assurance Cup in the one-day international matches at Hastings, Leicester and Bristol.

Richard Heyhoe-Flinn, the dominant figure in women's cricket for the last 20 years, has announced her official retirement as a player at the age of 44. Mrs Heyhoe-Flinn has played in 51 international matches since making her debut in 1960. She will manage the England team during the series against New Zealand.

## Change of scene for Collingham

Club and Village

By Michael Barry

Collingham, runners-up in the Whitbread Village Trophy in both 1974 and 1982, have switched their allegiance to the more daunting domain of the William Younger club championship for 1984.

The reason behind the move are doubled-edged. Perhaps of greater significance is that it will accommodate their three players with first-class experience, including Dusty Hare, the England rugby union full back. Todd, Weighman and Hare, who have all played for Nottinghamshire would have had to sit out the Village Trophy under the eligibility ruling. Hare's availability will in any case be limited because of his inclusion in the rugby party to tour South Africa. It is relatively unknown opposition of Buxton who provide Collingham with their opening game on May 6.

Sharnbury, the club champions, combine the start of their defence of the trophy against Kidderminster on Sunday. Hastings and St Leonards Priory, last year's runners-up have already come through their opening tie against Sevenoaks. Vice on Monday in pursuit of a Hastings total of 225 for six, Sevenoaks dwindled from 127 for two to a final total of 205 for nine, despite an unbeaten 85 from Golds and 71 from Lee.

But Hastings, some two weeks behind the competition's first winners of 1984, Wrexeter and Uppington, with Jones, the Shropshire left hander making 98 and taking three wickets, beat Elworthy by seven wickets as early as April 7. Scarborough, the club champions on four occasions in the last eight years, wait until May 6 before starting their campaign.

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The first round due to be completed by Sunday therefore sees the spotlight fall on some of the lesser known sides. Lords on August 19 will seem a long way off among the cucumber sandwiches at such rural delights as Woodpeckers, Ferns Bank and Iscody and Sheriff Hutton.

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PEAT  
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## HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

## Join the revolution now

After years of somnolence, the training world is in a state of virtual revolution. As Tom King, the Employment Secretary, said, "We must step up the whole momentum of training. Today people must be ready to adapt faster than ever, developing new skills and then improving them to stay ahead."

In forcing through this revolution, the Government has stirred up great controversy, not least through its recent White Paper, Training for Jobs. Amid all the debate, now ever, the development of one programme, the Open Tech, has been free of contention.

There are now more than 60 Open Tech projects being funded through the Open Tech Unit at the Manpower Services Commission and some already have students enrolled. The remainder are still being developed. It's a long process since the innovative nature of the scheme has meant that a massive amount of work needs to be done to produce the kind of material appropriate for this new approach to industrial training.

## Improving the quality of instruction

In many cases new technology is providing the vehicle for delivering the training packages. One of the most sophisticated projects is being undertaken by Michael Lansman at the Buckinghamshire Institute of Higher Education. Mr Lansman and his team are in the final stages of producing an "export marketing management" course which makes use of the whole gamut of modern information technology including Prestel, a BBC Micro, and videotapes.

Students are now being enrolled for the course launch in May. From then on, they will be able to dial Prestel for access to materials as well as making use of printed texts and video.

Apart from exploiting a variety of media, the export marketing management package is also interesting because it is clearly aimed at the professional and managerial level. In the early days of Open Tech, the potential audience for the materials was defined in terms of technicians and supervisors.

As Michael Lansman says: "We're meeting three demands. The first is from major companies involved in work overseas. The second is from young graduates who are just getting into export marketing and need some training. And the third group consists of marketing professionals who want to update their skills and maybe gain membership of the Institute of Exporting or the Institute of Marketing, both of which recognize the course."

The Open Tech methods mean that even the busiest manager should be able to fit in time somewhere to brush up his or her skills or acquire new expertise. Almost total flexibility is giving students not only the freedom to study at a time and place which is

## Edward Fennell looks at the big changes in training, particularly at the Open Tech

convenient, it is actually providing access to courses for those who could never make it otherwise for reasons of geography or the nature of their work. For example the Scottish Business Education Council (SBECE) is developing a "Tourism for Small Businesses" package which is aimed at the self-employed and those in small firms to help them improve their general efficiency and sharpen up their response to the prospects offered by tourism.

Many people involved professionally with Open Tech are excited by the tremendous potential opened up by this new approach based on the computer and video. But if the Open Tech is to succeed, it needs to inculcate a new attitude to training.

In that context the arrival recently of the "materials and resources information service" (MARIS) is of key importance. MARIS is administered by the National Extension College and operates a computerized databank on which is stored details of all the open learning materials currently available. Though it is funded by the Open Tech, its intention is to be comprehensive, incorporating references to all materials, whatever their source. Already it holds 3,000 items and a couple of dozen requests for information are received each week from training officers who want to identify packages which meet their needs.

MARIS is, though, exclusively a service for the "gatekeepers" - people like training managers and not for the managers or supervisors who themselves want to be trained. This seems to be the major shortcoming at the moment. An information system for

students and learners is planned but it is not yet available. The Open Tech is about open learning but currently it is hard for the man or woman in the street to get access to advice and guidance about what is actually on offer.

At the moment it is probably those in engineering who are feeling most acutely the need to keep up with latest developments. It is encouraging therefore to see that a major agreement has been signed between the Centre for Engineering Design at Cranfield Institute of Technology, the Engineering packages aimed at the engineering designer. Initially about 50 companies and 500 learners will be involved on courses concerned with Design for Economic Manufacture and Computer-aided Design Engineering. Later on there will be packages in Creative Design; Information Technology for Engineering Designers and Design and Management. If the country's engineering industry is going to succeed in competing more effectively for a bigger share of the world market, then these are the skills needed to do it.

Amid all the razzamatazz about the hi-tech of the Open Tech, it is worth sparing a thought for the intended customers. How are they likely to respond? According to Jack Cairns, the marketing and development manager for the Southtek Open Tech Unit based at Brighton Poly, there has been a massive amount of interest and enthusiasm from both training staff and line managers who see the scheme as being the answer to many of their skill problems. The MSC reckon that there will be 50,000 people signed up for Open Tech in 1986.

For more information about Open Learning schemes contact MARIS at 1 St Mary Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4ER (0353-61284). The Open Tech Unit is based at the Manpower Services Commission, Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ.

## MARKETPLACE

The number of job vacancies, although still higher than last year, is falling. Even so, recruitment advertising in the national press is booming, writes Philip Schofield.

About a third of all vacancies are notified to Jobcentres and the monthly figures are usually a reliable indicator of trends. In March the flow of vacancies into Jobcentres was just above 7 per cent up on last year. However, the numbers, calculated on a seasonally adjusted basis, have been falling steadily since October.

The volume of recruitment advertising in the seven quality national newspapers in March was up by almost 40 per cent on last year. This suggests buoyancy in the professional and executive market. Five of the top popular national daily newspapers showed a collective growth of more than 27 per cent.

The apparent fall in vacancies is hard to reconcile with the level of advertising unless employers are using Jobcentres far less than usual. Employers certainly remain optimistic about job prospects. The latest survey of employment prospects among 1,057 leading employers conducted by Manpower Limited shows that 28 per cent of employers think the size of their workforce will be increased and only 11 per cent expect cuts.

The most optimistic employers are in Scotland, followed by those in south Wales and the West. Only employers in north west England believe their numbers will remain static. The most buoyant sectors of employment, according to the Manpower survey, are electrical engineering, road transport and light engineering. The only sectors expecting net losses are public utilities and local government.

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## General Appointments

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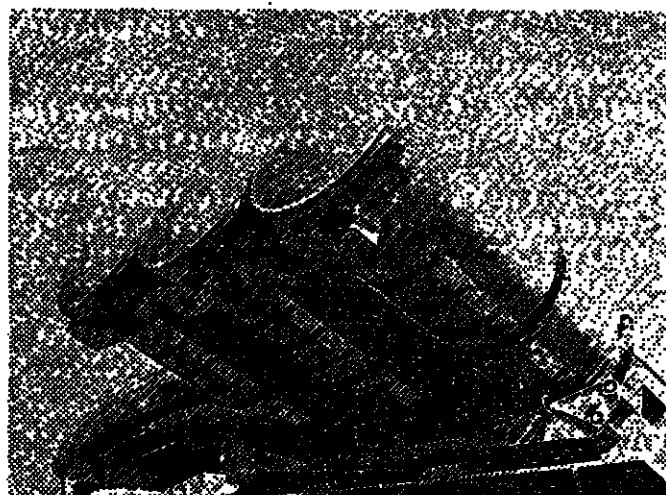
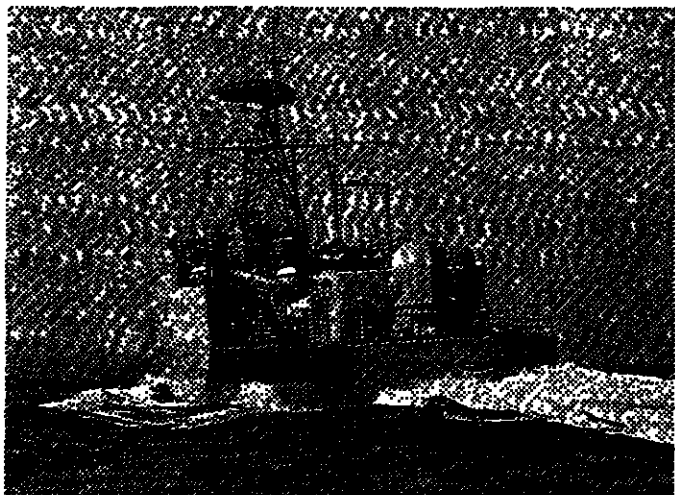
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